



## Animal Welfare Department Veterinary Services **LOW INCOME SPAY/NEUTER PROGRAM**

The City of Albuquerque Animal Welfare Division provides follow-up medical services for animals adopted within the last 10 days and free spay/neuter services for **low income qualified citizens** of Albuquerque.

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### HOW DO I QUALIFY?

- **Qualification is based upon:**
  - Residence **within the City of Albuquerque**
  - Total household income
  - Proof of current government assistance
  - Limit of **2 pets per household**
  
- **Disqualified:**
  - Pet owners under 18 years of age
  - Dogs weighing 50 pounds or more
  - **Any pet weighing less than 3 pounds**
  - Aggressive animals
  - **Any animal assessed by the City veterinarian as a surgical risk**

#### INCOME GUIDELINES

<u>FAMILY SIZE</u>	<u>ANNUAL GROSS INCOME</u>
1	\$21,150
2	\$24,150
3	\$27,150
4	\$30,150
5	\$32,600
6	\$35,000
7	\$37,400
8	\$39,800

#### DO I HAVE TO QUALIFY TO RECEIVE VETERINARY SERVICES?

**Yes.** You must qualify as low income to receive complimentary spay/neuter, vaccine, and microchip services. Proof of qualification is required at the time you drop off your pet.

## WHAT IF I DON'T RESIDE IN ALBUQUERQUE?

Please refer to the CABQ website, the Yellow Pages, or your local city/county government agency for other options.

## CAN I BRING MY PROOF OF LOW INCOME WHEN I PICK UP MY PET?

**No.** Proof must be presented at check-in or services will not be rendered.

## WHAT PROOF DO I NEED?

- **Two paycheck stubs** dated within the last month for each wage earner in the household

**OR**

- **Bank statement** showing direct payroll deposits of your last two paychecks

**OR**

- **W2s or other tax documentation** for the last calendar year

**OR**

- **Government assistance award letter:** award letter detailing the amount of Food Stamp EBT, TANF, Medicaid, or SSI (must be dated within the current calendar year)

**\*\*\*NEW BEGINNING OCTOBER 4, 2011\*\*\***

## SPAY/NEUTER SERVICES

Free spay/neuter services for low income qualified citizens of Albuquerque will begin October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

- **Walk-in, first-come-first-served** basis ONLY: no appointment needed or available
- **Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday ONLY**
- **Eastside Shelter ONLY**
- **ONLY THE FIRST 20 PETS WILL BE TAKEN.**
- Drop-off time is from **7:30 to 8:00 am**
- Proof of qualification **MUST** be presented at drop off or services will not be rendered.
- Surgery patient pick-up is from **3:00 to 5:00 pm**

**Note: If you fail to pick up your pets, they will be kept overnight. Overnight fees will apply and must be paid before your pet will be released to you.**

## WHAT WILL BE DONE FOR MY PET?

- Female pets will be **spayed**; male pets will be **neutered** (surgically sterilized).
- **Microchip** implant with free registration (unless your pet has one)
- **Vaccinations** against common canine and feline diseases
- **Rabies vaccination** if three months of age (unless you bring proof of prior vaccination within the last year)
- **Rabies tag and city license** will be issued.
- **Your pet's future care is your responsibility.**

## WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW BEFORE I COME?

- Dogs **MUST** come on a leash.
- Cats **MUST** come in a carrier; if you bring 2 cats, bring 2 carriers.
- Aggressive animals will be turned away.
- Each pet will be examined by a veterinarian prior to surgery. If your pet is sick or considered a surgical risk, surgery will not be performed.
- **Do not feed your pet after 9:00 pm the night before surgery.**
- **Give your pet water all night long.**

## WHAT DO I NEED TO BRING WITH ME?

- Driver's license or official ID card
- Social security number
- Current proof of low income status; **services will not be rendered without it.**
- Proof of vaccines within the last year if you do not want your pet revaccinated. Proof is a **rabies certificate**, *not* a pet health record.
- An alternate contact number for the microchip registration: someone who has a different phone number than yours. **If your pet is already microchipped, please tell us!**
- If someone else is going to drop off or pick up your pet, they need a **signed and dated letter of authorization** from you and their driver's license or official ID.

**For example:** "I, (your name), authorize (your friend's name) to transport my pet (your pet's name) to and from AWD for spay/neuter surgery on (the date)."

## **I QUALIFY, BUT I DON'T DRIVE. ARE THERE ANY OPTIONS FOR ME?**

**Yes!**

- Have someone pick up a paperwork package for you at any AWD location.
- Fill out the paperwork in advance (package must be filled out properly to be valid).
- Have a friend, neighbor, or relative transport **your paperwork, your ID, your proof of income, and your pet.**
- Provide this person with a **signed letter of permission** authorizing them to transport your pet. **They must present their ID** so we know we are releasing your pet to the proper person.

**For example:** "I, (your name), authorize (your friend's name) to transport my pet (your pet's name) to and from AWD for spay/neuter surgery on (the date)."

**Completing your paperwork early will shorten your check-in time! We encourage everyone to do this!**

## **WHERE DO I TAKE MY PET?**

- Animal Welfare Division East Side Animal Shelter
- **8920 Lomas NE** (between Wyoming and Eubank on the south side of Lomas)
- Turn south off of Lomas onto **Herndon**, just east of the Hyundai car dealership.
- The veterinary clinic is the **north door** (on your left as you face the building).

## **MY PET'S INCISION IS INFECTED. WHAT DO I DO?**

Return to the **East Side clinic** within 10 days of surgery from **2:00 - 4:00 pm** any day of the week.

## **GENERAL HOURS OF CLINIC OPERATION**

**Surgery patient drop-off: 7:30 to 8:00 am **EAST SIDE CLINIC ONLY****

**Surgery patient pick-up: 3:00 to 5:00 pm **EAST SIDE CLINIC ONLY****

**Rabies vaccine clinics: (for **ADOPTED ANIMALS ONLY**) **1:00 to 3:00** every **Wednesday and Thursday** at both **East side and West side locations**. These clinics are not open to the public.**

**Recheck appointments: (for post-operative complications within 10 days of surgery **IF** they occur) **2:00 to 4:00** seven days a week at the **EAST SIDE CLINIC ONLY**.**

**If you have any further questions, please call 311.**