

Pet Friendly Services of Indiana

Veterinarian Reference Guide



History and Mission

Pet Friendly Services of Indiana is a statewide financial assistance organization whose mission is to eliminate the euthanasia of healthy and treatable cats and dogs. We provide financial assistance to limited-income individuals and 501(c)(3) nonprofit animal welfare organizations and municipal shelters. Veterinarians in our program conduct the surgeries, with Pet Friendly Services reimbursing them at our contractual rates. Since our inception in 1977, we have facilitated more than 230,000 surgeries.



Pet Friendly Services is financially supported by generous donations, annual fundraisers, community support and proceeds from the Pet Friendly license plate.

Programs

Pet Friendly Services runs three year-round programs. Participating vets can determine which program(s) they wish to participate in and can also determine the number of surgeries they wish to perform. There is no commitment regarding the minimum or maximum number of surgeries.

Each certificate has a unique code that corresponds to the sponsoring program.

1. Spay-Neuter Assistance Program (SNAP)

SNAP serves pet owners who receive one of 10 types of public assistance and/or who live at or below 200% of the federal poverty level. The pet owner pays up to a \$50 copay per surgery. Qualifying programs include:

- Energy Assistance Program
- Food Stamps
- Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP)
- Major VA Disability
- Medicaid (not Medicare)
- Public School Free Lunch Program
- Section 8 Housing
- Social Security Disability (SSD) - (not SS Retirement Income)
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Qualifying Income:


Household Size	Gross Annual Income	Monthly	Weekly
1	\$31,300	\$2,608	\$602
2	\$42,300	\$3,525	\$813
3	\$53,500	\$4,458	\$1,029
4	\$64,300	\$5,358	\$1,237
Each additional person	add \$11,000	\$917	\$211


Pet Friendly Services focuses on limited-income pet owners because income is the strongest single predictor of whether pets are spayed/neutered. A *Journal of American Veterinary Medicine Association* study found that only 51% of cats living in low-income households were altered compared to 90% of cats in middle-income households. The result of having unaltered cats has a big impact on shelter intake numbers. New Hampshire reported that almost half of the kittens surrendered to the shelter came from low-income households, even though only 12% of families lived at this income level.


Studies confirm that dogs living in low-income households are less likely to be sterilized than their middle-income counterparts. For example, a 2008 survey conducted by the American Pet Products Association found that pet owners with annual incomes less than \$12,500 per year had sterilized only 54% of their dogs.

Whether cat or dog, unaltered pets are more likely to be relinquished at shelters than their spayed/neutered counterparts. Unaltered cats are more likely to migrate into feral colonies and increase their numbers.

The SNAP Process

 Client completes an online application via our website, uploads income qualification paperwork, and pays the \$50 co-pay. Pet Friendly Services mails a goldenrod certificate to the client for owned cats and a green certificate for community/feral cats. Clients can then call the vet of their choice to schedule an appointment. Our Participating Vet List is available on our website.

 Clients without Internet access can call Pet Friendly Services' voicemail line to request a paper application. Clients must pay via money order, as we do not accept personal checks.

 After surgery is completed, the vet clinic utilizes our online reimbursement portal to submit certificates for completed surgeries. Contact Scarlett@PetFriendlyServices.org to learn more and get started.

 Reimbursement is Net 15.

SNAP Reimbursement Schedule:

Dogs

Pet Type	1 – 40 lbs.	41 – 99 lbs.	100+ lbs.	Pregnant /In-Heat
Male Dog	\$130.00	\$150.00	\$170.00	N/A
Female Dog	\$150.00	\$170.00	\$190.00	\$30.00 +

*Includes Pregnant/In-Heat

Cats

Pet Type	All
Male Cat	\$90.00
Female Cat*	\$115.00

The surgery reimbursement schedules above include ALL costs associated with the surgery – office call, anesthesia, pre- and post-care, fluids and pain medicine given at the time of surgery. Clients may elect to purchase additional take-home meds if they choose.

Pet Friendly Services recognizes that by participating in our program(s), your clinic is making a meaningful contribution to animal welfare. Please be aware that SNAP clients are on limited-incomes and require no other services (e.g., heartworm or feline leukemia checks, kennel cough vaccinations, boarding charges, antibiotics, stool check, de-worming, pre-surgery bloodwork, etc.) that you may normally require of full-fee paying clients. If your clinic recommends these services, please communicate that they are optional and that the client is financially responsible for them if they agree to them prior to the surgery.

Indiana State Law requires that all pets be current on their rabies vaccine. When clients schedule their appointments, please remind them that this is required and the expense is their responsibility. It is at your discretion if you require this vaccine at the time of surgery or wish to see the pet's vaccination record.

2. Community Cat Program (CCP) (feral and free-roaming)

Through the Community Cat Program (CCP) Grant, Pet Friendly Services provides **free** surgery certificates to 501(c)(3) nonprofit Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) organizations, and shelters with TNR programs. This program is also provided to low-income qualified Indiana residents who desire to help control the community/feral cat populations in their neighborhoods. By focusing on community cats, we can reduce euthanasia numbers and provide long-term solutions for feral and free-roaming outdoor cats. Keeping community cats out of shelters also results in better adoption outcomes for both adoptable cats and dogs. This is because shelters can focus their time and financial resources on adoptable animals.



The Community Cat package includes spay/neuter, a rabies vaccination, pain meds during surgery, and a mandatory ear-tip. The ear-tip is a symbol that a cat has been vetted and ready to live in a managed colony where a colony caretaker provides food and shelter.

Community Cat Reimbursement Schedule:

Pet Type	All
Community Cat (feral): Male (Includes Rabies Vaccine & Mandatory Ear Tip*)	\$100.00
Community Cat (feral): Female (Includes Rabies Vaccine & Mandatory Ear Tip)*	\$120.00

*Includes Pregnant/In-Heat

3. Pet Friendly Plate Grant - Coupon Program (PFPG-CP)

This program provides spay/neuter surgery **coupons** to 501(c)(3) nonprofit animal welfare organizations and municipal shelters for the animals in their care. Recipient groups may apply once per 12-month period. Coupons are awarded as long as funds are available.

Participating clinics are reimbursed by Pet Friendly Services for the full coupon amount (listed in the chart below), and the rescue group/shelter pays the remaining balance directly to the clinic.

These surgery coupons are for shelter/unowned animals. In some instances, the adopting “parents” may be asked to coordinate the surgery if the shelter is under-staffed.

Reimbursement Rates:

Pet Type	Coupon Discount/Reimbursement
Dog (all)	\$100
Cat (all)	\$50

The rescue group/shelter pays the remaining balance directly to the clinic.

The Reimbursement Process

To expedite reimbursement and reduce paperwork, vets can utilize our online portal to submit certificates or coupons after the surgeries have been completed. Contact Scarlett@PetFriendlyServices.org for more info and to get started. Pet Friendly Services operates on Net 15 terms.

Thank You!

We cannot thank you enough for being a part of the Pet Friendly Services’ team! Without you, thousands of animals would remain intact only to reproduce and fill shelters. You are making a huge difference in your community, and your participation is greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions, please call or email us. We are here to help and want to help you succeed and fix as many pets in your community as possible.

Contact Us

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