



## Colonial Capital Humane Society Adoption Policy



- You must be at least 21 years of age to adopt or foster a pet.
  - All pets in the home must be current on vaccinations or spayed/neutered.
  - All dogs must be on heartworm preventative.
  - All cats must be FIV/FELV tested negative (if positive, we may have positive cats available for adoption or foster).
  - We have a strict "**No Declaw**" and "**Indoor Only**" policy for cats/kittens adopted from us.
  - If the pet you chose is still available when we receive your application and your application is a good match, we will contact your veterinarian for vetting history.
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- We may ask you to consider another pet instead, either because we have several good homes for the same pet or because we believe another pet is better suited for your family. We may decide to take more applications before placing the pet for adoption. Some pets have special needs, and it is in their best interest to wait for a perfect placement.
  - We may decline your application, either due to your pet care history or your current circumstances for care and keeping of a pet. While saying "no" is hard, sometimes it is in everyone's best interest. Please respect our decisions. You may wish to reapply if your circumstances change.
  - You may change your mind or decide that none of our current pets are right for you. Withdrawing your application does not affect your ability to adopt from us later.
  - If it becomes evident, once you have finalized the adoption, that your pet cannot adjust and you have exhausted all reasonable options, CCHS will take the animal back. However, please understand that the *adoption fee (see below), in most instances, is nonrefundable.*

### Adoption Fee - Effective February, 2023

- Dog: \$215
- Puppy: \$250
- Senior Dog: \$100
- Cat or Kitten: \$145
- Senior Cat: \$90
  - *Declawed cats are an additional \$50*

The fee covers a vet exam, spay/neuter, up-to-date vaccinations, testing/treatment for heart-worms, and any needed medical care prior to adoption.

### **The Cost of Pet Ownership**

**Y**our new cat or dog becomes a member of your family for life. You want your pet to have routine medical care, wholesome food, and occasional treats. You also want to make provisions for their care whenever you are away and in the event you are no longer able to care for them. Before you apply to adopt a pet, please consider the associated time and cost commitments.

#### ***Ongoing Costs of Pet Ownership***

You should include basic equipment, such as collar, leash, litter box, etc. while considering adoption. The initial costs of adoption and pet ownership are minimal when compared with ongoing care costs.

- For starters, if you feed your pet a good-quality food, expect to spend the following each month: cats and small dogs – \$10-\$15; medium dogs – \$25; large dogs – \$40+.
- If you adopt a cat, allow at least \$15 per month for litter and hairball medication.
- It is highly recommended to use flea prevention treatments year round, whether your pet is exclusively indoors or is out and in. The least expensive of these are also the least effective. The best medications (for example, Advantage Multi) also prevent heart-worm, ear mites, and other problems. Yearly costs for Advantage Multi range from \$175 to \$225, depending on pet size.