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Voluntary Foster Carer Registration Information

Under the *Domestic Animals Act 1994* (DA Act), foster carers must register all foster animals (over three months of age) housed at their premises with their local council, even if the animal is just in their temporary care.

What is the voluntary foster carer registration scheme (FCRS)?

Individual foster carers may apply to their local council to be a registered foster carer under the voluntary FCRS, with registration valid for one year. In accordance with section 68H of the DA Act, council may charge a fee for registration. Voluntarily registered foster carers will receive:

- a reduced registration fee of \$0 for each dog they foster during the first 12 months the dog is in their care (rate valid from 10 April 2026 to 9 April 2027)
- a reduced registration fee of \$0 for each cat they foster during the first 12 months the cat is in their care (rate valid from 10 April 2026 to 9 April 2027)
- the ability to supply (as an approved source) dogs six months of age or older, and cats eight weeks of age or older, to pet shops to enhance foster animal exposure and rehoming opportunities.

If approval is granted to join the scheme, your local council will issue you with a certificate that you will need to show if you intend to supply pet shops, to demonstrate that you are an approved source eligible to supply cats and dogs.



Foster Carer Registration Scheme Application Form

Providing false information in this application is an offence under the *Domestic Animals Act 1994* and carries a penalty of five penalty units.

PART A – FOSTER CARER DETAILS			
Mr/ Mrs/ Ms / Miss	Surname:	Given name/s:	
Address:			
Suburb:		Postcode:	State:
Email:		Contact No:	
Postal address (if different to above):			
PART B – PET DETAILS (not including your foster animals)			
Number of registered dogs and/or cats you <u>own</u> (not including your foster animals):			
Species: Cat / Dog	Animal Name:	Microchip No:	
Species: Cat / Dog	Animal Name:	Microchip No:	
Species: Cat / Dog	Animal Name:	Microchip No:	
Please attach details of any additional registered pets at the premises.			
PART C – CONTEXT			
1. Do you foster dogs and/or cats over three months of age?			<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
2. Are you aware of your local council's limits on the number of dogs and cats you are permitted to house at any one time? <i>Please enquire with your local council if you are uncertain about the number of animals you can house.</i>			<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
3. Do you hold an excess animal permit (if required)? <i>Please enquire with your local council if you are unfamiliar with this requirement. If you have a excess animal permit, please attach a copy to this form.</i>			<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
4. Do you understand that, if approved as a registered foster carer, you cannot house more than five foster animals at any given time (even if your local council permits you to house more)? <i>Please note: This requirement also applies to foster carers that are not registered in the foster carer scheme. If you have more than five foster animals you are required to register as an animal shelter.</i>			<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N



PART D – ELIGIBILITY		
<p>Have you been found guilty of an offence under the <i>Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986</i> (POCTA Act) or regulations made under that Act?</p> <p>If yes, list the offence: Date of offence/finding of guilt: _____</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N
<p>Are you currently, or have you ever been, subject to a control order under the POCTA Act?</p> <p>If yes, list the offence: Date of control order expiry: _____</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N
<p>Have you been found guilty of an offence under the <i>Domestic Animals Act 1994</i> (DA Act) or the regulations made under that Act?</p> <p>If yes, list the offence: Date of offence/finding of guilt: _____</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N
<p>Have you been subject to a 'Notice to Comply' under the DA Act?</p> <p>If yes, list the offence: Date of notice: _____</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N
<p>Have you been found guilty of an offence under any law of another State, or a Territory of the Commonwealth, that corresponds with the POCTA Act or DA Act?</p> <p>If yes, list the offence: Date of offence/finding of guilt: _____</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N
<p>Is the premises where you house your foster animals currently registered, or proposed to be registered, as a domestic animal business?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N
<p>If yes, what type of domestic animal business?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Boarding <input type="checkbox"/> Breeding <input type="checkbox"/> Pet shop <input type="checkbox"/> Shelter <input type="checkbox"/> Training</p>		
<p>Are you the proprietor of a domestic animal business at a location other than the premises where you house your foster animals?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	<input type="checkbox"/> N
<p>If yes, what type of domestic animal business?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Boarding <input type="checkbox"/> Breeding <input type="checkbox"/> Pet shop <input type="checkbox"/> Shelter <input type="checkbox"/> Training</p>		
<p><i>Please note: If you answered yes to any of the above, you may be ineligible to register as a foster carer.</i></p>		



PART E – AFFILIATIONS

Do you provide foster care services to a council pound or registered animal shelter under a written foster care agreement? Y N

If you answered yes to the above, please complete the following information about the shelter or pound

Name of shelter/pound:	
Address of shelter/pound:	
Phone number:	

Do you have a section 84Y agreement with any Victorian council to rehouse cats and dogs? Y N

If yes, which council/s do you have a section 84Y agreement with?

Please note: Under the Domestic Animals Act 1994, section 84Y enables council to enter into written agreements with individuals or bodies to sell or dispose of dogs and cats seized or surrendered to council. Enquire with your local council if you wish to learn more about this agreement.

Are you affiliated with a Community Foster Care Network (CFCN) or rescue group? Y N

If you answered yes to the above, please complete the following information about the CFCN

Name of CFCN / rescue group:	
Address of CFCN / rescue group:	
Phone number:	

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Did the applicant answer YES to any of the questions under Part B – Eligibility? Y N

Please Note: If the applicant answered YES to any of the questions under Part B – Eligibility, they are ineligible to register as a foster carer. Do not proceed with registering to scheme.

Does the applicant have a current excess animal permit? (if applicable) Y N

Application Assessed by:	Insert name and role of officer assessing application		
Date assessed:		Application Status:	<input type="checkbox"/> APPROVED <input type="checkbox"/> NOT APPROVED

