



Ontonagon County Animal Protection (OCAP)
19405 State Hwy M38 / PO Box 315
Ontonagon MI 49953
(906) 884-2500

FOSTER-CARE TERMS/APPLICATION

Foster care provides temporary homes to help OCAP save more animals from euthanasia or temporarily house and care for animals needing special care. A foster home may have an animal for a few weeks or several months. There is no guarantee of how long an animal will require foster care.

Please read these terms thoroughly to understand what would be required of you as a foster home before completing the attached application. ("Foster home" or "foster family" in this document means one or more individuals, of legal age, who agree to take an animal into their home and accept the conditions set forth in OCAP's Foster-Care Contract.) The foster home represents that no member of its household (permanent or temporary) has ever been charged with cruelty to animals.

In order to foster for OCAP, adult members of the household (i.e. spouses, partners, boarders, children over 18 years of age) must agree to the conditions of this application and indicate their agreement by signing at the bottom. Adults are responsible for the actions of children under 18.

1. **Experience:** The foster home has a reasonable working knowledge of the proper care and humane treatment of animals.
2. **Daily Care:** The foster home agrees to provide the animals in its care with sufficient food, water, exercise, socialization, obedience training, veterinary care (including transportation), vaccinations, heartworm, de-worming, prompt veterinary care in case of illness or accident, and flea/tick protection (if needed). The foster home will also provide the care and attention needed to help the animal adjust to its temporary home.
3. **Reimbursement:** OCAP will reimburse the foster home for any preapproved expenses that may occur during the foster period. Preapproval can be obtained by contacting any board member who will grant or obtain the approval for you. Veterinary care and other bills paid by the foster home, whether routine or emergency, will be reimbursed by OCAP **only** upon receipt of legitimate receipts and a brief written explanation of the charges.

For ordinary veterinary visits (i.e., vaccinations, spay/neuter) to be billed directly to OCAP, the foster home must obtain a Veterinary Authorization Form from OCAP, signed by an OCAP representative, and take it to the veterinarian. This form, signed by the veterinarian, should be returned to OCAP after the visit. This is standard procedure for all OCAP animals, whether in foster care or at the shelter.

OCAP does not reimburse foster homes for food, toys, treats, litter, and crates.

4. **Spay/Neuter:** All foster dogs and cats will be spayed or neutered prior to adoption unless age or illness make it prudent for the procedure to be postponed. If postponed, an adoptive family must agree (in the adoption contract) to have the procedure done at the appropriate time.
5. **Housing Requirements:** No OCAP house pet will be left outside at night, tied out unattended, or placed in any situation in which it could be harmed. The foster home agrees to give a dog proper exercise (whether in a fenced area or on a leash) to maintain its health. All foster cats will be kept indoors. Permission from the landlord is required if the foster family rents or leases its home.

If the foster animal is lost or stolen, the foster home will immediately contact OCAP and assist in attempts to recover the animal.

The foster home agrees to notify OCAP immediately of any changes of address or telephone number as well as any changes in the makeup of the foster family (i.e. new baby, addition of other children or adults to the household, departure of the main animal caregiver, etc.).

6. **Health/Temperament:** The foster home understands that OCAP may have no prior knowledge of the health or temperament of the foster animal. OCAP will attempt to see that the foster animal is compatible with the foster family but cannot guarantee the animal's temperament. The foster home agrees that it will hold harmless OCAP and entities supporting OCAP (including volunteers, veterinarians and their staff, etc.) for any harm to any person who may come into contact with a fostered animal while it is under the care of the foster family. The foster family will not hold OCAP liable for any damage caused by the animal while in foster care. The foster home will contact OCAP immediately if any problems arise with the foster animal (i.e. incompatibility, medical or behavioral issues, etc.). If a foster animal harms a person or other animal, the foster home agrees to contact OCAP within 12 hours of the incident. The foster home will abide by OCAP's decision as to the disposition of the foster animal in question.
7. **Ownership:** Foster animals remain the property of OCAP. The foster home may not give, lease, sell, lend, or otherwise transfer custody of a foster animal while it is under the foster home's care. If the foster family leaves the area for any length of time (i.e. vacation), OCAP will be advised and the foster home and OCAP may agree upon a temporary caregiver for the foster animal. A foster family may allow potential adopters to visit the animal in the foster home, but if a potential adopter asks the foster family for the animal, the foster family will refer the potential adopting party to OCAP. The foster family agrees that OCAP representatives may visit the foster home to check on the animal at any time with reasonable notice.
8. I understand that fostering animals, while extremely rewarding, is a serious responsibility. The life and long-term outcome for the foster animal may depend on my care. All members of my household age 18 and above have read and understand this application, as indicated by their signatures below.

(Attach an additional sheet of paper if needed.)

Name _____ Date _____

Name _____ Date _____

Name _____ Date _____

Name _____ Date _____

APPLICATION FOR FOSTER-CARE APPROVAL

If you have read and agreed to the terms of providing foster homes for OCAP animals, please complete the following application. If approved, you will be added to OCAP's list of foster-care providers.

Name _____ Day Phone _____

Address _____ Evening Phone _____

1. What species of animal/s are you interested in fostering?

2. What ages and conditions would you like to work with? (For example, puppies, kittens, older animals, pregnant animals, recovering animals.)

3. Is there a limit on the length of time you could foster each animal? Please explain.

4. List the members of your household and their ages. Attach an additional sheet of paper if needed.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

5. List all the animals currently in your home. Include species, gender, and whether or not they are spayed/neutered. Attach an additional sheet of paper if needed.

Name	Species	Gender	Spayed/Neutered
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

6. Briefly describe how your pets are housed.

7. If you rent or lease your home, please provide your landlord's signature approving that you may foster animals on his property.

Landlord's Name _____ Telephone _____

Please read the following paragraph carefully, and then answer the accompanying questions.

OCAP will determine the criteria for fostering, decide which animals will be fostered, and appoint foster-care providers from the approved list. Approved foster-care providers may refuse a request for any reason. OCAP will advise foster providers of any medical treatments to be given, the estimated length of foster care needed, the objectives of the foster care (i.e., restoring to health, rearing to adoptive age, lack of space in the shelter, etc.) and any other issues relevant to the care of the animal. As a foster provider, you are expected to follow the terms of the foster agreement, including providing secure care and returning the animal to OCAP upon request.

Briefly describe the qualities that would make you a good foster-care provider and your home a good foster-care home for an OCAP animal.

Describe your facilities for keeping fostered animals (you must be willing to let an OCAP representative do an in-home inspection).

Do you feel you could emotionally "let go" of any animal you have cared for, regardless of the outcome?

Staff Use Only

Interview: Yes _____ No _____ Date _____

Approved: Yes _____ No _____ Date _____

Site Visit: Yes _____ No _____ Date _____

Comments/reason for denying approval:

Staff Signature _____ Date _____