

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF MEDICINE POLICY ON ADOPTION OF ANIMALS

The University of Maryland School of Medicine Veterinary Resources (VR) has developed the following policy and procedure for adoption of canine and feline animals. University-owned animals that have no persistent health or behavior concerns may be adopted by people who work at The University or at an affiliate of The University or may be released to a non-profit animal shelter organization that has been screened by The University Attending Veterinarian (AV) or his or her designee.

ADOPTION ELIGIBILITY

- The AV will make the final determination whether the animal would make a reasonable adoption candidate based on the research history and physical examination.
- The animal must be in good health and of acceptable behavior as determined by the AV or his or her designee.
- Animals must be adopted as pets and subsequently must not be sold, used for food, or used as working animals.
- Potential adopters will be screened by the AV, or his or her designee, for their suitability, qualifications, and knowledge of appropriate care required for the animal.

VETERINARY EXAMINATION

- A complete physical examination will be performed by the AV or his or her designee.
- Diagnostic testing and/or appropriate vaccinations and surgical sterilization will be ordered and administered prior to adoption, as deemed necessary by the AV or his or her designee.

TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP

- At the time of adoption, a note will be made in the animal's record and the Final Disposition Form, will certify that the animal was adopted as a private pet.
- The **University of Maryland School of Medicine Animal Policy on Adoption of Animals** will be signed by the AV and the adopter and copied. One copy will be provided to the adopter and the original will be retained by VR.
- The animal's medical record examination statement and test results will be provided to the adopter.
- The adopter is responsible for any and all future veterinary and behavioral care as may be required.
- All records of the adoption will be maintained by VR for at least three (3) years.