The Pet Promise Program

Pets provide unconditional love and unfailing friendship. Most of us expect to outlive our animal companions, however, should the unexpected occur, it is important to have a plan in place for their care. The Pet Promise Program provides assurance to participating donors that their dog, cat, bird, rabbit or rodent pets will be cared for and placed in suitable adoptive homes if their owners are no longer able to care for them due to death or permanent incapacitation.

Enrollment in the Program

The OSU Foundation will help you enroll in the Pet Promise Program. They will walk you through the following steps and answer all your questions:

- Contact the OSU Foundation to request an enrollment form: 1-800-352-7281.

- Enroll in the program by donating to the OSU Foundation, for use by the College of Veterinary Medicine, a minimum amount of $25,000 for up to 3 pets, and an additional $5,000 for each additional pet. Alternatively, an estate gift of $50,000 will cover 3 pets, with $10,000 for each additional pet.

- Notify friends, family, and the executor of your estate that your pet(s) are enrolled in the program. Ask the executor to contact the Oregon State University College of Veterinary Medicine immediately upon your death or inability to care for a pet.

- After notification, a representative from the college will make the arrangements for immediate care, and transportation to the Oregon Humane Society to begin the adoption process. They will ensure the highest level of care and compassion, and will make every effort to minimize stress on your pet(s) during the transition.
Frequently Asked Questions

Does the College of Veterinary Medicine find new homes for my pets?
The OSU College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) has a formal agreement with the Oregon Humane Society (OHS) to manage the adoption of pets enrolled through the Pet Promise Program. Once ownership is transferred to the OHS, pets receive excellent care from trained OHS staff and volunteers. The OHS takes great care in finding a new family that is both deserving and responsible for the special care required for each and every pet. OHS does not place any time limits on an animal’s stay: a pet may stay at the shelter until the perfect new home is found.

Does the Oregon Humane Society benefit from my donation?
An amount equal to 20% of all gifts made through the Pet Promise Program will be given to the OHS at the time the gift is realized. In exchange for this support, the OHS will agree to house and care for the enrolled pet(s), and provide any necessary medical care (through the Animal Medical Learning Center) until the pet(s) is placed in a suitable home.

What animals are eligible for enrollment in the Pet Promise Program?
We are accepting dogs, cats, birds, rabbits and rodents. An initial assessment will determine if the pet(s) is unsuitable for adoption (cases of incurable infectious disease, behavioral issues that are considered non-rehabilitative, etc.) Pets with special needs, whether medical or behavioral, will be noted and, in most cases, can be accepted and will be cared for until a suitable home with a competent owner is found.

What if my originally enrolled pet passes away, or I add additional pets to my family?
As those pets enrolled in the program change, (new pets or loss of pets) owners are asked to send updated enrollment information to the OSU Foundation.