

Animal Care and Control - Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: Why do I have to get my pet licensed?

A: In order for the City to maintain compliance with California State Law, (Health and Safety Code Section 121690 and Food and Agriculture Code Section 30502) a license must be obtained annually for all dogs over the age of four months. Pets must be licensed within 15 days of joining your family or moving into LA County jurisdiction. Licensing is an important means of identification and can help to return lost pets to their owners quickly. License revenues are a vital means of support to help [The County of Los Angeles Department of Animal Care and Control \(DACC\)](#) promote and protect human and animal safety.

Q: How can I renew my license if I did not receive my license renewal form?

A: Each pet owner is responsible for paying the license renewal annually. A courtesy reminder is sent to each pet owner approximately two months prior to the renewal date. Nevertheless, the pet owner is responsible for renewing their pet's license if they did not receive the courtesy notification. Current licenses can be purchased online at <http://animalcare.lacounty.gov/>.

Q: How much is a pet license and are there senior rates?

A: The City currently contracts with the DACC to provide animal licensing efforts and other animal care services in the City. There are discounts for senior citizens who are at least 60 years of age. For current fees and senior rates, please view the license fee schedule http://file.lacounty.gov/dacc/cms1_199304.pdf

Q: Why do I have to vaccinate my pet?

A: California state law requires that all dogs older than four months of age be currently vaccinated against rabies. Los Angeles County Code requires rabies vaccinations for cats, as well as, dogs. It is very important that you maintain current vaccinations for your pet's health and well-being. Animals can become exposed to sick animals through contact between yard fencing, at parks, or other places of congregation. For more information, please visit <http://animalcare.lacounty.gov/>

Q: Where can I buy replacement tags for my pet(s)?

A: If a pet's license becomes lost, a replacement license may be purchased by submitting a check for \$5 to the Department's Licensing Division. For further information, please contact the Enforcement Services Bureau's Licensing Division at (562) 345-0400. This division is located at 12440 East Imperial Highway, 6th Floor, Norwalk 90650.

Q: Why does my pet need to be spayed and/or neutered?

A: Spaying or neutering your pets is beneficial to your pets, the community, and you. Sterilizing your pets makes them less susceptible to certain diseases and cancers. It prevents their offspring from entering our animal care centers, resulting in fewer homeless animals. Spayed or neutered pets are less likely to roam and become lost or injured. Also, spayed or neutered animals will save you money in pet licensing fees.