



Administration of Animal Population Control Fund

Background & Purpose

Section 117-a of Article 7 of the New York State Agriculture and Markets Law provides for the Department to contract with an independent not-for-profit administrator for the administration of the State Animal Population Control Program.

The purpose of the Animal Population Control Program is to reduce the population of unwanted and stray dogs and cats thereby reducing the incidence of euthanasia and potential threats to public health and safety posed by the large population of these animals. The program seeks to accomplish its purpose by encouraging residents of New York State who are owners of dogs and cats to have them spayed or neutered by providing low-cost spaying and neutering services to low income owners that meet certain criteria. "Low-cost" means substantially less than the average cost in a particular region of the state for spaying or neutering services, including any and all ancillary charges for services, such as presurgical examinations, tests and immunizations, and other services related to the spay or neuter procedure. All veterinary services must be performed by a veterinarian licensed in New York State.

The Animal Population Control Fund is dependent on income from the following sources:

1. License plate sales of APC license plates;
2. Unredeemed spay-neuter deposits from shelters;
3. Donations; and
4. Surcharges on dog licenses issued by municipalities in New York outside of New York City. (\$3.00 surcharge for unspayed/unneutered dogs, and \$1.00 on spayed and neutered dogs).

The total income is expected to exceed \$1,000,000 per year. However, some counties and local municipalities may administer local spay neuter programs. If this happens, the surcharges on dog licenses issued by those municipalities will stay at a local level and not be administered through the Animal Population Control Fund.

The entity chosen to administer the fund will receive quarterly payments from the Animal Population Control Fund. Annual revenues to the Animal Population Control Fund average \$800,000 annually. This amount varies widely year by year and may be substantially more or less than this amount. Interested applicants would need to have the capability to adjust the program according to the varying income.

The administrative entity chosen will review plans submitted for approval and funding of low-cost spay-neuter programs and award grants from the Animal Population Control Fund for implementation of such plans.

Eligible Entities

Pursuant to section 117-a, the Commissioner may award a contract to the following not-for-profit entities:

- duly incorporated societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals;
- duly incorporated humane societies;
- duly incorporated animal protective associations;
- duly incorporated non-profit corporations that have received designation as 501(c)(3) entities by the Internal Revenue Service and which entities are operating



as animal rescue organizations, animal adoption organizations, spay/neuter clinics, or other entities whose core mission predominantly includes statewide efforts to manage the companion animal population in New York state.

Criteria for Award

In awarding the contract, the Commissioner must consider the following criteria with respect to each applicant: its experience in providing low-cost spay-neuter services, the scope of services it provides, the length of time it has been operating, its financial history, its demonstrated ability to work with outside organizations and community groups, and the proposed cost of administering and promoting the program.

Eligible not-for profit entities interested in administering the Animal Population Control Program should submit a statement of interest consisting of a short description of:

- **your organizational status;**
- **your experience in providing low-cost spay-neuter services;**
- **the scope of services your organization provides;**
- **the length of time your organization has been operating;**
- **your organization's financial history;**
- **your organization's demonstrated ability to work with outside organizations and community groups;**
- **your capacity to administer the Animal Population Control Program for a five-year term beginning January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2025.**

The statement should be emailed to Judy Giovannetti at procurement.info@agriculture.ny.gov by 3:00PM on December 9, 2020. Please use the subject line "Animal Population Control Fund."