Registered Rescue or Pet Dealer?

☐ I am a breeder raising and offering 25 or more dogs and/or cats a year to the public (jointly or individually).

☐ I have a pet store offering 9 or more dogs and/or cats to the public.

☐ I am purchasing 9 or more dogs and/or cats for re-sale (from any source).

☐ I am obtaining 9 or more dogs and/or cats from any source (shelters, etc.) and adopting them to the public.

➤ If you checked any of the boxes above, you are a pet dealer.

All businesses falling under the above criteria MUST apply using the Pet Dealer License Application found at agriculture.ny.gov.

Even if you categorize yourself as a breeder, rescue, or pet store, you must still apply to be a licensed pet dealer.

➤ You may apply to be a Registered Rescue if you:

☐ have New York State CERTIFIED Incorporation Papers from the New York State Department of State.

☐ have a 501C3 letter or certificate from the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance.

☐ have a Charities Bureau Number from the New York State Attorney General’s office.

If you do not have the three items listed above and are engaged in adoption/rescue activity, you MUST apply for a pet dealer license.

If you wish to continue with adoptions, you MUST apply as a pet dealer and then can transfer from being a pet dealer to being a registered rescue upon receipt of the required documentation listed above.

Entities that engage in adoptions MUST either be a registered rescue or a licensed pet dealer. If not, they must refrain from adoptions. The exception to this is entities adopting less than 9 animals per year.