



2019 Pet Assistance and Support Program (PAS) FAQ's

	Question	Answer
1	Q. What factors are important in running a successful program?	A. A successful program requires that you partner with an animal protection organization and a veterinarian, and limit pet contact to family and designated shelter staff.
2	Q. Why is it important to partner with an animal protection organization?	A. An animal protection organization can provide guidance on animal housing issues, local animal regulations and ordinances, and difficult animal issues.
3	Q. Why is it important to partner with a veterinarian?	A. A veterinarian can provide the initial examination of each pet to provide general medical care including rabies vaccinations, micro chipping, behavioral support, flea/parasite treatments, and spaying/neutering.
4	Q. Can you describe behavioral support and how a veterinarian would deliver this service?	A. Some pets may react to a new environment by barking, chewing, or displaying problem behavior (e.g., barking, biting, property destruction). Veterinarians are trained to assist family and shelter staff in strategizing on addressing issues when they arise.
5	Q. What are the rules of conduct and responsibility regarding pets and their owners?	A. A change in the environment can be stressful and affects everyone, including pets. The residents provide the day-to-day care for their own pets. Each resident should receive guidelines that include limiting pet contact to family and shelter staff and connecting with an animal protection organization.
6	Q. What type of Insurance do I need to shelter pets?	A. Check with your current insurance carrier to see if a rider that addresses the on-site housing of pets is required on your existing policy. Investigate nonprofit insurance programs or specialty insurance programs for your coverage if your carrier does not cover housing pets.
7	Q. My insurance carrier will not provide insurance if we house certain pets.	A. Your insurance carrier may require a higher premium for certain dog breeds. Consider replacing your insurance carrier with one that won't discriminate. When negotiating your insurance coverage consider adding a pet rider to your existing policy that states only the family and designated shelter staff will interact with the pets. If a pet arrives with problem behaviors, your partner animal protection organization can help find alternative housing for the pet.
8	Q. What is the cost to set up and maintain housing pets?	A. The cost for set up and maintenance depends on what the shelters needs are. You are encouraged to look for community support to fit as many of your needs as possible. The initial start-up cost will likely be more than the maintenance.
10	Q. Do we have to accept all types of pets?	A. PAS is designed to assist individuals experiencing homelessness and their common household pet. It is up for the shelter to limit the

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		type of pet, and this grant is specifically for the sheltering of common household pets.
11	Q. Can you define what is considered a common household pet?	A. Under Code of Federal Regulations Title 24 CFR § 5.306 Definitions. <i>Common household pet means:</i> (1) For purposes of Housing programs: A domesticated animal, such as a dog, cat, bird, rodent (including a rabbit), fish, or turtle, that is traditionally kept in the home for pleasure rather than for commercial purposes.
12	Q. What rules are residents required to follow while participating in the PAS program?	A. <i>Animals owned by participants will be permitted in the kennel area established on site. While animals are not in kennel area, they must always be on a leash. Owners are responsible for providing them with the proper care, cleaning up after messes, and ensuring that anyone exposed to the animal is safe. All animals on premises must be properly vaccinated and free of parasites. Should parasites be discovered, the issue must be rectified immediately. Animals will be permitted in designated kennel areas while you, the pet owner, is in our program.</i>
13	Q. If we are a large, community-based organization with many divisions, one of which is Homeless Services, would we qualify as having a “primary mission to serve homeless”?	A. You should be able to apply as long as the shelter component meets the minimum requirements
14	Q. How is the funding gap determined? Is the funding gap the difference between the cost of operating our shelter and the addition of this new program?	A. The funding gap is the remaining income and funding sources needed to cover the PAS eligible expenses. If PAS eligible expenses are at \$250,000 and a separate grant covers \$60,000, then the funding gap will be \$190,000
15	Q. What if it is a new shelter that is about to open?	A. Any applicant meeting the minimum requirements in the NOFA will qualify. Only one year of experience owning and operating an emergency shelter is required in the NOFA.
16	Q. Are domestic violence shelters eligible to apply?	A. Yes, provided they meet the minimum requirements in the NOFA.
17	Q. When can applications be sent?	A. The NOFA was released on December 31, 2019 and application due date is March 2, 2020. Applications are accepted in the order of

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		receipt, so we recommend that you submit your application as soon as possible. Your application must be date stamped by USPS, UPS, FedEx or any other carrier that provides date stamp verification of delivery.
18	Q. I cannot find the actual application online, can you help with that?	A. The application can be found on the Department website at the following location: https://www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-funding/docs/PAS-Application.xlsm
19	Q. Is the purchase of crates and/or kennels an eligible grant expense? Also, is the cost of other pet supplies-leashes, collars, food bowls, blankets, etc.?	A. The purchase of crates and kennels is an eligible expense. Supplies, such as leashes, collars, and blankets could be included under this expense item. Food bowls could be included as a food-related expense. Expenses related to the proper housing and care of pets is an allowable expense.
20	Q. I am with an animal welfare organization that provides pet assistance for individuals experiencing homelessness. Would we qualify for grant funding for our homelessness assistance program even though we don't operate a homeless shelter?	A. The welfare organization would need to house and feed the individuals experiencing homelessness. The intent of this program is to provide funding to shelters to house not only individuals experiencing homelessness, but also their pets.
21	Q. Can these funds be used to supplement existing pet-friendly shelter operations, or are only shelters that are not yet pet-friendly eligible? We opened our DV shelter to pets a year ago.	A. Yes, as long as you have one-year experience and meet the minimum requirements you are eligible to apply.
22	Q. Do we have to supply food to the pet owners?	A. Yes, the requirements are that you supply food to both the person experiencing homelessness and their pet. The intent of this program is to provide funding to shelters to house not only individuals experiencing homelessness, but also their pets.
23	Q. Can a municipality who is contracting with a homeless shelter service provider apply?	A. The municipality can apply as a co-applicant.
24	Q. If four interim housing sites are operated (2ER shelters + 2 Navigation Centers), are we eligible for the \$200k per site?	A. Grants could be awarded to four sites with four applications.

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25	Q Is there a minimum size of shelter?	A. There is no minimum size for a shelter.
26	Q. Can shelters apply as a collective and is there a limit to the numbers?	A. There will be one grant per shelter. There can be co-applicants. Shelters must submit one application per shelter. There is no limit to the number of applications.
27	Q. Due to kitchen restrictions at our shelter, all food services are offered offsite at another building to residents. Microwavable food and refrigeration are offered on site. Does this qualify for feeding homeless residents?	A. Yes, the location of the services does not matter as long as the participants are fed.
28	Q. Can we include security costs for staff who may have to monitor the kennels?	A. Yes, if the staff are assisting with the monitoring of the kennels. A description of the security costs would be required as part of the documentation.
29	Q. If an organization partners with multiple shelters can they submit for multiple grants?	A. Yes, you can submit one application per shelter.
30	Q. If we are operating a temporary shelter (for which we are applying), but we are undergoing a capital campaign to build a larger facility on that same campus, can we include expenses for the future facility?	A. You can apply for a future facility as long as all funds are expended by June 30, 2022 and you meet the one year of experience requirement.
31	Q. Can an animal shelter apply for the grant for a new low barrier shelter that allows pets which has not be in operation a full year?	A. The shelter is fundable if the applicant has at least one-year experience owning and operating a shelter and it houses both humans and pets.
32	Q. Is the purchase of crates and kennels required for all animals if our shelter is single room and animals can be secured in the participants rooms?	A. Crates and kennels would not be required provided that pet is contained in an enclosed room.
33	Q. Can this grant cover the installation of a concrete pad and a metal roof to be over the kennel area or the	A. Yes, If the cost can be connected to the development of the crates and/or kennels.

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	development of a pet run area or a fenced pet area?	
34	Q. Is improving the run that the pets use, such as installing shading, and eligible expense?	A. Yes, this is an eligible expense if the run is connected to the crates and/or kennels.
35	Q. Will pet owner education programs be covered with this grant? Specifically, pet owner education programs such as animal ordinances and laws, importance of vaccinations, licenses, proper kennel training and housebreaking?	A. Yes, this cost could be connected to veterinarian services.
36	Q. We operate a homeless shelter and a domestic violence shelter under the same non-profit. If we wanted to apply for both, would we need two applications?	A. Yes, two applications would be required for two different properties.