

PETA's Animal Shelter Intake Policy

PETA's Animal Shelter and Community Animal Project practice an open admission policy, meaning that we do not turn animals away regardless of their age, history, breed, physical condition, or temperament. The shelter does not have a waiting list or charge a surrender fee, and our staff is available 24/7, including to respond to after-hours emergencies and pick up and transport surrendered animals. It often takes in the aggressive or feral animals rejected by other shelters as unadoptable. It also offers a free compassionate euthanasia service to community members who wish to end the suffering of their ill, aged, or injured animal companions but who cannot afford to pay the fees required by most veterinary practices.

PETA's shelter often "fills in" for public animal shelters that don't take cats in at all or that have intake policies so restrictive that taxpayers are left with nowhere to turn when they need help. Many of the jurisdictions that we serve are low-income.

Please note that almost without exception (such as after hours, when facilities are closed), PETA immediately transports stray animals to the municipal animal shelter in the jurisdiction in which they were found in order to increase the chances that they will be reclaimed. We also routinely transfer potentially adoptable animals to a number of regional partners with a strong record of finding permanent adoptive homes.