

NYCHA PET POLICY OVERVIEW

The following are highlights of the NYCHA pet policy (*Revised April 2010*):

- ◆ **Dog/Cat:** A household may own either **one** dog or **one** cat. Such dog or cat must be registered in accordance with NYCHA's pet registration requirements.
- ◆ **Weight Limits** As of **February 1, 2010**, residents who wish to maintain a dog in their NYCHA apartment will be permitted to register such dog, provided the adult weight of the dog does not exceed **25** pounds. Specifically prohibited dogs (either full breed or mixed breed) include: **Doberman Pincher, Pit Bull** and **Rottweiler**.
Prior to February 1, 2010, residents were permitted to register a dog, regardless of breed, provided the adult weight of the dog did not exceed 40 pounds.
- ◆ **Registration:** Every household that owns a dog, a cat, or a Service Animal **MUST** submit to NYCHA a registration form (available at the management office) within **30** days after such dog, cat or service animal was acquired.
After the registration form is submitted the resident has an additional 90 days from the date of registration to submit a veterinarian certification showing that the dog or cat was examined, was spayed or neutered, has a current rabies vaccination and that the dog is licensed by the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.
A dog or cat that is not registered may not reside in or visit a NYCHA apartment.
- ◆ **Dog Tag:** When in public or common areas, all dogs (including dogs that are Service Animals) must wear on a collar about its neck both: (a) its NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene metal license tag, and (b) its NYCHA metal registration tag.
- ◆ **Service Animal:** *A Service Animal is one that assists, supports or provides service to a person with disabilities*, as verified by a medical doctor. One example is a guide dog for a blind person. Service Animals are exempt from any registration fee or weight limit, but must still be registered.
- ◆ **Other Pets:** Reasonable quantities of other pets such as small caged birds (parakeets, canaries), fish and small caged animals (hamsters, gerbils guinea pigs), maintained in accordance with the NYC Health Code, are permitted. These animals do not need registration. This paragraph does not apply to dogs or cats.
- ◆ **Dangerous Pets:** Animals that are vicious, threatening, bite people or that are otherwise prohibited by law are not permitted in NYCHA apartments or on NYCHA property. Residents are not permitted to keep dangerous dogs, including fighting dogs or attack dogs, on NYCHA property.
- ◆ **Pet Conduct:** Pets must be kept in a manner that will not create a nuisance, excessive noise or an unsafe or unsanitary condition. A pet must not injure, cause harm to, or threaten other people. A pet must not cause damage to personal property or to other animals. A pet must not damage NYCHA property or premises, including buildings (inside or outside an apartment), elevators, common grounds, trees, shrubs or ground cover.
- ◆ **Pet Waste:** Pet owners must clean up after their pets, in their apartment and in public areas. Dispose of pet waste, including cat litter box filler, in the compactor with the regular garbage, **not** in the toilet. Dogs must be curbed. Solid dog waste must be picked up.
- ◆ **Dog Leash:** A dog must always be kept on a leash, **six** feet long or less, while in a public area both inside and outside of NYCHA buildings.
- ◆ **Pet-Free Zone:** Pets are not allowed to enter a designated "no-pet" area, such as Management Offices, playgrounds, Community Centers, laundry rooms, basement areas, barbecue areas, roofs or roof landings.
- ◆ **Spay/Neuter:** Dogs and cats must be spayed or neutered.
- ◆ **Vaccination:** Dogs and cats must have a current rabies vaccination.
- ◆ **Registration Fee:** A tenant must pay a one-time, non-refundable fee of **\$25**, valid for his/her entire NYCHA tenancy.
- ◆ **Fee Exemptions:** The following are exempt from paying the \$25 pet registration fee:
 - A resident of a development designated exclusively for **Senior Citizens**.
 - A resident of a **Section 8 Project Based** development.
 - A resident who maintains a verified **Service Animal**.

**TO REPORT A VICIOUS, THREATENING, OR PROHIBITED ANIMAL WITHIN YOUR DEVELOPMENT:
CALL THE NYC 24 HOUR CITIZEN SERVICE CENTER (CALL 311)**