

Guidelines for Establishing Eligibility for Services of Vance County

Spay/Neuter Assistance Program

The Spay/Neuter Program was established as a no reverting special revenue account in the Department of Health and Human Services through the North Carolina General Statutes, Chapter 19A, Protection of Animals, Article 5, Spay/Neuter Program, and is now administered through the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The Program provides Spay/Neuter assistance for low-income persons, which is defined as "*an individual who qualifies for one or more of the programs of public assistance administered by the Department [of Health and Human Services]*" ... pursuant to Chapter 108A of the N. C. General Statutes.

N.C.G.S. 19A-63 (c) provides that "*each county shall make rules or publish guidelines that designate what proof a low-income person must submit to establish that the person qualifies for public assistance under [19A 63 (b)] ... or has an annual household income lower than three hundred percent (300%) of the federal poverty level guidelines published by the United States Department of Health and Human Services.*"

Before providing the services furnished under the Spay/Neuter Assistance Program, the vendor, Spay/Neuter Clinic of the Planned Pet hood, shall be required to:

- A. Receive from the applicant a completed application for services which must be retained by the Clinic and a copy provided to Vance County, and
- B. Receive documentation from the applicant establishing that the applicant is a resident of Vance County and receives one or more forms of public assistance benefits (Medicaid Card, Social Security Income Statement, Food Stamp Card) a copy of which must be provided to Vance County, or
- C. Receive documentation by paycheck or stub, form 1040, unemployment insurance approval letter, or referral from DSS, establishing that the applicant's income is less than 300% of the federal poverty level guidelines as published by the United States including number of hours worked, and number of family member supported by said income.

Proof of eligibility for services may be obtained from the Vance County Department of Social Services. Failure to provide proof of eligibility for services as required herein shall result in services being denied pursuant to the terms of the Spay/Neuter Assistance Program. Vance County will not discriminate as to which applicants receive the discounted services provided, and the above qualifications are implemented pursuant to N.C.G.S. 19a-63.

A copy of these Guidelines for Establishing Eligibility for Services of Vance County, (Spay/Neuter Assistance Program) shall be displayed by the provider/vendor in a prominent location where applications for services are received.