



South Carolina Animal Care & Control Association

Changes to the No More Homeless Pets Statewide License Plate Spay/Neuter Fund

If you haven't already heard, big changes are coming for the No More Homeless Pets spay/neuter fund. In years past participating agencies simply provided free or low-cost spay/neuter to low income citizens in their communities and turned in list each month of surgeries completed. Then at the end of the fiscal year (that runs from June to July) that list was tallied up and each agency was reimbursed for as much as possible depending on funds available. Because there were rarely enough funds to cover all requests, eventually many groups dropped out and only four continued to participate. Even then there were never enough funds to cover all requests for funding.

In an effort to spread this statewide funding to even more areas of our state, new procedures will be implemented according to changes in the law governing these funds. The funds will still only be available to help pets currently owned by citizens. They will not be available for the spay/neuter of pets in shelters, foster care, etc. Pet owners must still qualify as low income just as before.

Moving forward nonprofit tax exempt organizations offering spay/neuter programs may apply for grants (maximum \$2,000 per grant) at the beginning of each new fiscal year. This actually will not start until the beginning of FY 2020/2021. Once a grant is completed, an agency can apply for additional grants in the same fiscal year as long as the previous grant is completed.

For FY 2018/2019, funds will be distributed as they have been in the past. For FY 2019/2020 no funds will be distributed. All funds collected during FY 2019/2020 will then be used for the new grant funding process starting in FY 2020/2021.

As we move forward with these changes we will put together guidelines for the grant application process. Keep in mind that it has been encouraged that grants helping in Teir 3 and 4 counties be considered first. As the guidelines are finalized they will be posted on the SCACCA website, so stay tuned for that.

Thanks – SCACCA Board of Directors