

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. How much is the adoption fee?

\$400.00 (purebred puppies) \$350.00 (purebred adults) \$300.00 (mixed breed puppies) \$250.00 (seniors, special needs or mixed breed adults). Please note that, due to the high demand for hypoallergenic dogs (such as poodle mixes), the adoption fee for any hypoallergenic mixed breed dog is the same as for a purebred. As we are a 501(c)(3) corporation, your adoption fee is considered a charitable donation and is tax deductible. PLEASE CHECK IF YOUR EMPLOYER WILL "MATCH" YOUR CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTION IN WHOLE OR IN PART.

PLEASE NOTE THAT, IF YOU ARE SIMPLY FOSTERING A DOG, THERE IS **NO ADOPTION FEE PAYABLE** UNLESS YOU SUBSEQUENTLY DECIDE TO ADOPT THE PET. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A FOSTER PARENT, WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO PROVIDE YOU WITH A COPY OF OUR FOSTER AGREEMENT, WHICH EXPLAINS MORE ABOUT OUR FOSTER PROGRAM.

2. Why is the adoption fee so high?

Our rescue accepts many ill dogs, older dogs and behaviorally challenged dogs. The cost of rehabilitating these animals is extremely high. Generally speaking, only a fraction of what has been spent on an individual dog is recovered through your adoption fee. We rarely, if ever, break even on any dog who passes through our rescue. All Abandoned Angels dogs are vetted, vaccinated and spayed/neutered and professionally groomed prior to adoption. All of our dogs go home with a new leash and collar.

3. Wouldn't it be cheaper for me to adopt a dog from a shelter?

Not always. Generally speaking, shelters do not fully vet the animals who pass through their doors. You will more likely than not find yourself bringing home a dog who needs medical care, the cost of which will exceed our adoption fee. Most of our dogs are former shelter animals who were also made available for adoption to the public.

4. I live very far away. Can you ship the dog to me?

We do not ship our dogs. Anyone who wishes to adopt one of our dogs must complete an application and visit the dog in person. We must have the opportunity to meet you and to assess how the dog interacts with you and how you interact with the dog. We do adopt to out-of-state families and can sometimes transport a dog part of the way, but reserve the right to apply a \$100.00 transport fee (in addition to the adoption fee).

5. Is the dog housebroken?

Please do not request a housebroken dog. Unless the dog's petfinder bio specifically states that the dog is housebroken, assume that the dog is not. Rescued dogs almost always need help with housebreaking. By the time they have passed through a shelter environment or any other form of kenneling experience, most dogs need to be re-trained, even if they have been housebroken previously (crate-training being the method we prefer). However, the ultimate responsibility for housebreaking your new pet must lie with you. We can highly recommend a short book on housebreaking, which is available in paperback and is an easy (and quite entertaining) read: "How To Housebreak Your Dog in 7 Days" by Shirlee Kalstone which is available on-line through Barnes and Noble.

6. Does the dog come with a crate?

Your adopted pet will not come with a crate. We highly recommend that all adopters invest in a crate for their new pet (we prefer wire-type crates that collapse for ease of transport; plastic crates - often referred to as "varikennels" - are cheaper but air circulation in a plastic crate is not the best, nor can the pet see 360 degrees around, which makes some dogs anxious). If you wish to foster one of our dogs, we would request that you purchase a crate for the dog's use.

7. Can you guarantee that the dog is healthy and that it has a good temperament?

In the world of rescue, there are no guarantees. All of our dogs are seen by a vet upon coming into rescue and any known health issues are treated. If the dog has an ongoing health issue of which we are aware, we will disclose it at the time of adoption. Any known temperament issues will also be disclosed. We will only place a dog in a home with young children if we believe the dog to be "kid friendly." However, our dogs do not come with resumes. Most of the dogs we rescue are shelter animals whose backgrounds are unknown. Even a "kid friendly" dog should not be left unattended with children, especially during the first few weeks after coming home.

8. My dog started to cough shortly after coming home. What should I do?

Call us immediately! Many of our dogs have only recently been pulled from the shelter system. While all of our dogs are seen by a vet before being adopted out and fully vaccinated, the dog may nevertheless have been exposed to "kennel cough," which has an incubation period of 7-10 days. If your dog begins to cough or snort, it is important to isolate the animal from any other dogs in your home and to start the dog on antibiotic treatment right away. We will often send the dog home with antibiotics in any event. If your dog shows symptoms of kennel cough and you are concerned, you are welcome to bring your dog back for an examination and any necessary treatment by our vet at no cost to you. In rare cases, a dog suffering from kennel cough may require hospitalization in order to receive fluids and antibiotics intravenously. If you decide to take the dog to your own vet, any costs you incur will not be reimbursed. We have negotiated a special rescue discount through our vet that is based on volume.

9. Is the adoption fee refundable?

As a rule, no. However, we are a 501(c)(3) corporation and the adoption fee (which is considered a charitable donation) is tax deductible. Depending on the circumstances, we may make a full or partial refund, but the final decision lies with our Treasurer.

10. If the adoption has not worked out, can I exchange for another dog?

Where an adoption has not worked out despite an adopter's diligent efforts, we are generally quite willing to allow the adopter to try with another dog. However, if we have reservations about an adopter's suitability to care for a rescued pet after an initial placement, we will not place another dog in that person's care.

11. If I no longer want the dog, will you take it back?

Always, irrespective of the lapse of time. However, if you are not certain that you want to make a lifetime commitment to an animal with all that commitment entails, you are probably not ready to adopt.

12. Do you have a minimum age requirement or a maximum age cut-off point for applicants?

Technically, no. However, in practice we find that applicants under 25 years of age are often not suited to adopt because their lives are too unsettled (e.g. we are rarely comfortable adopting a dog out to a "roommate" situation). Similarly, in the case of a very elderly applicant, we will want to be reassured that the applicant's family is prepared to take over care of the dog in the event of the applicant's death.

13. What happens now?

If you would like to apply to adopt a specific dog you have seen on-line or to have us identify one or more dogs who would be suitable for your family, please complete and return the attached application by email or fax (212-704-8335). We will generally respond within a few days.

14. Once I have been offered an appointment to meet the dog, does that mean that the dog is "on hold" for me?

Unless we expressly undertake to do so, the dog is not "on hold" for you. We will generally hold a dog for up to 24 hours, but if you cannot arrange to meet the dog within that period, the dog may be adopted out to another applicant. We must proceed on this basis as the vast majority of those dogs who are ready for adoption are in paid boarding. This is extremely costly for us. If you have been offered an appointment to meet a specific dog and the dog is no longer available, we will inform you that the dog has been adopted and suggest other candidates who might be suitable for your family based on the information in your application.

15. How soon can I take the dog home after meeting him or her?

Assuming that we are comfortable with how you interact with the dog and with how the dog interacts with you, you will be able to take the dog home the same day. However, if we feel the interaction is questionable for any reason, we will not adopt the dog out, even if the applicant wishes to take the dog home. Assuming that both we and you agree that the dog is a good match, you should be prepared to take the dog home the same day. We are unable to hold dogs due to space constraints and cannot guarantee that the dog will be available if you are unable to take the dog home with you right away. Please note that all adopters are required to execute our standard form of adoption contract.

Application to Adopt or Foster an Abandoned Angel

Name: _____ Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Job Description and Place of work: _____

Does your employer offer a "match" in respect of charitable donations to a 501(c)(3) corporation? _____ (please note that there is an adoption fee, as set forth in the "Frequently Asked Questions" that immediately precede this application).

Do you live in: A house _____ or Apt _____ Do you Own _____ or Rent _____

If you live in a house, do you have a fully fenced yard? _____

If you rent: Does your lease allow pets? _____

Are there restrictions with your community on the numbers of pets you can own? _____
PLEASE NOTE: It is definitely worth checking with your county! We have on occasion had broken-hearted adopters have to return dogs because, unbeknownst to them, local ordinances limited them to a certain number of pets per home.

How many people live in your home? Adults _____ Children _____

Does anyone inside the home smoke? _____

If children live in the home, what are their ages? _____

If no children live in your home, are children frequent visitors to your home? _____ If so, please specify their ages _____

Does anyone have any known allergies to dogs? _____

Do you have any pets now? _____ How many _____ What kind _____

How long have you had these pets? Give number of yrs individually _____

If above you mentioned that you have dogs as pets, please provide their age and type of breed _____

Are your pets spayed or neutered? _____

Are your pets on Heartworm preventative? _____

If you do not own pets currently, have you owned pets previously? _____

If so, what kind? _____ What happened to these pets? _____

Have you ever given a pet away? ____ If so, to whom and for what reason?

What do you consider a justifiable reason for giving a pet away? _____

Would you adopt/foster a dog with treatable health conditions? ____

Would you consider a special needs dog? (Daily meds, deaf, etc.) ____

Would you adopt a dog with disability? ____

Who will be responsible for the care of this pet? ____

Where will the pet be kept during the day? _____ During the night? _____

If you work outside the home, what arrangements will you be making to have the dog walked during your work day? _____

What is your definition of disciplining a dog? _____

Please provide a veterinary reference. _____

Have you ever submitted an application to another rescue that was refused? _____

If so, what reasons were given? _____

Are you applying to adopt a specific dog? _____

If you are not applying to adopt a specific dog, what kind of dog are you looking for?

Color _____ Age _____ Breed _____ Other _____

If applying to adopt a cocker spaniel:

Are you aware that cocker spaniels have special needs with regard to their ears, which must be flushed on *at least a weekly basis*? ____

Are you aware that cocker spaniels may suffer from frequent ear infections, especially if the dog's ears are not regularly flushed, and that ear infections, if left untreated, can ultimately render the dog deaf? ____

Can you recognize the signs of an ear infection? ____ Do you undertake to provide veterinary care for the dog promptly upon becoming aware of an ear infection? ____

Are you aware that cocker spaniels generally require at least bi-monthly grooming? ____ Do you undertake to have the dog professionally groomed every 6-8 weeks? ____

Are you financially able to take care of this pet (food, grooming, veterinary bills, dog walking, etc.)? _____

Having answered all these questions, do you agree to take care of the dog placed with you in good and bad times, in sickness or in health, until death do you part or, if providing foster care, until a permanent home is found for the pet? _____

By signing below, you are representing and warranting that all of your responses contained in this application are true and correct. Abandoned Angels shall have the right to remove any dog placed with an applicant should it discover that the applicant has made any material representations.

BY SUBMITTING THIS APPLICATION, YOU ACKNOWLEDGE THAT YOU ARE REQUESTING AN APPOINTMENT TO MEET WITH ONE OR MORE RESCUED DOGS WHOSE FULL BACKGROUNDS ARE UNKNOWN. WHILE OUR VOLUNTEERS PERSONALLY INTERACT WITH OUR DOGS PRIOR TO THEM BEING SHOWN, IT IS NOT ALWAYS POSSIBLE TO ASSESS HOW A GIVEN DOG WILL REACT TO A GIVEN APPLICANT AND THAT APPLICANT'S FRIENDS AND FAMILY. WHILE RARE, DOG BITES CAN OCCUR. BY SUBMITTING THIS APPLICATION, YOU AGREE TO INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS ABANDONED ANGELS COCKER SPANIEL RESCUE, INC. AND ANY REPRESENTATIVE, AGENT OR OFFICER OF ABANDONED ANGELS COCKER SPANIEL RESCUE, INC. FOR AND AGAINST ANY AND ALL MANNER OF ACTION AND CAUSES OF ACTION, SUITS, DEBTS, DUES, ACCOUNTS, JUDGMENTS, CLAIMS, AND DEMANDS WHATSOEVER ARISING OUT OF OR RELATING TO ANY EVENTS THAT MAY OCCUR WITH ANY RESCUED DOG YOU OR ANYONE ACCOMPANYING YOU MAY MEET THROUGH ABANDONED ANGELS COCKER SPANIEL RESCUE, INC., WHETHER DURING YOUR INITIAL VISIT WITH THE DOG OR ONCE THE DOG GOES HOME, WHETHER ON AN ADOPTIVE BASIS OR AS A FOSTER DOG. BOTH YOU AND ANYONE ACCOMPANYING YOU (INCLUDING THE PARENTS OF ANY MINOR CHILDREN) MUST SIGN BELOW AND PRINT THEIR NAMES BENEATH THEIR SIGNATURE. THANK YOU.

Signature _____ Date _____

Abandoned Angels, P.O. Box 545426, Flushing, NY 11354
Tel. 917-257-0911 or 917-797-8798
Fax 212-704-8335

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN ADOPTING ONE OF OUR DOGS!
ALTHOUGH WE WILL OFTEN RESPOND MUCH SOONER, PLEASE ALLOW UP
TO 1 WEEK FOR US TO GET BACK TO YOU.**