



Adopt-a-Shelter-Pet License Plate Grant Guidelines (For spay/neuter surgery, veterinary medical care, and/or microchipping of shelter animals)

Background

The Colorado Pet Overpopulation Fund (CPOF) is a specific charitable fund established in 2001 by the Colorado State Legislature. CPOF exists to work with animal care and protection organizations (including pet rescues), veterinarians, and local communities to reduce pet overpopulation in Colorado and to engage the public about the importance of controlling pet overpopulation. CPOF is administered by an eight-person board of directors appointed by the Colorado Commissioner of Agriculture.

CPOF has two primary revenue sources benefitting either owned animals or shelter animals (i.e., those in the care of shelters, rescue groups or animal control agencies):

1. **Tax Checkoff** - Taxpayer donations to the “Pet Overpopulation Fund” checkoff on the state income tax form are allocated for the spay/neuter of dogs and cats *with owners*. For tax checkoff grant guidelines, [click here](#).
2. **Adopt-a-Shelter-Pet License Plate** - Revenue from the purchase of the specialty license plate and annual renewals are allocated to the spay/neuter, veterinary medical care, and/or microchipping costs of *shelter animals*.

Both the tax checkoff and license plate grant programs support pet overpopulation education initiatives.

CPOF encourages funding from multiple sources, such as collaborating organizations, participating veterinarians, and community support (e.g., individual donations, corporate giving, and foundation grants).

License Plate Grant Application Requirements

Only Colorado animal care and control organizations that principally serve Colorado animals and Colorado communities are eligible for license plate funding.

License plate grants are only available to fund the following for shelter animals:

- spay/neuter surgery
- veterinary medical care
- microchip identification (implant and registration)

The maximum allowable expenditure of license plate funds per shelter animal is **\$1200**. Any amount above the limit is the responsibility of the grantee. Grant funds cannot be used for the purchase of equipment or capital improvements.



License Plate Application Process

Applications are accepted through the online grant portal. To create a grant application account or sign in to an existing one [click here](#). Incomplete or late applications will not be considered for funding. Please [visit the CPOF website](#) or connect with us on social media for the most current information and upcoming deadlines.

License Plate Grant Awards

Applicants can expect to be notified of their grant status within eight weeks of the deadline. All grantees will be required to sign a grant agreement before funds are issued and will be required to submit a final report at the end of the grant term.