

Lowell Housing Authority Pet Policy and Certification

Federal Elderly Developments Pet Policy

1. Tenants in Federally assisted housing designed for the elderly or handicapped are permitted to own and keep common household pets in their dwelling units in accordance with federal regulations adopted by the Lowell Housing Authority.
2. Common household pet means a domesticated animal such as a dog, cat, bird, fish, rodent or turtle.
3. Mandatory pet rules:
 - A. All pets must be registered with the Lowell Housing Authority before they are allowed on the premises.
 - B. Only one four-legged pet per household.
 - C. Dogs must be licensed by the City of Lowell and updated annually. The Tenant shall provide proof of license to the Lowell Housing Authority.
 - D. The weight of the dog/cat shall not exceed 20 pounds.
 - E. Dogs/cats must be spayed or neutered whichever is applicable. Certification by a licensed veterinarian must attest to this service and required inoculations in accordance with the State law and local ordinances. Proof of compliance to be submitted to the Lowell Housing Authority prior to entry on the premises.
 - F. Pet owners are to remove and properly dispose of all removable pet litter or waste down the trash chute. Litter and waste must be securely wrapped and placed in the barrel located outside the building.
 - G. Dogs/cats shall be appropriately and effectively restrained and under the control of a responsible person while in the common areas of the project. The use of common hallways for pet exercising or loitering is prohibited.
 - H. Pets are to be excluded from specific common areas such as lobbies, laundry rooms, social rooms and elevators.
 - I. The Authority may adjust the pet and no pet areas or may direct such additional moves as may be necessary to accommodate for tenancy or to meet the changing needs of existing tenants.
 - J. Common household pet means "a domesticated animal such as a dog, cat, bird, fish, rodent or turtle." Snakes and lizards are not allowed.

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4. Tenant must pay reasonable expenses directly attributable to the presence of the pet in the project, including (but not limited to) the cost of repairs and replacements to and fumigation of the tenant's dwelling and charges up to \$5. 00 per occurrence to pet owner may be assessed to tenants who fail to remove pet waste in accordance with procedures.
5. Tenant shall identify an alternate custodian for pets in the event of tenant's illness or other absence from the dwelling unit. This identification of an alternate custodian must occur prior to the pet admission permit.
6. If the health or safety of a pet is threatened by the death, absence or incapacity of the owner and the owner or alternate is unwilling or unable to care for the pet, the Authority is authorized to remove and place the pet in another facility at the owner's expense not to exceed 30 days.
7. If the pets conduct or condition is duly determined to be a nuisance or threat to the health or safety of other tenants and the pet owner has failed to correct this violation in accordance with procedures the Authority may serve a written notice requiring the pet owner to remove the pet from the premises.
8. If the pets are left unattended for a period of 24 hours or more, the Lowell Housing Authority may enter the dwelling unit, remove the pet and transfer it to the proper agency, subject to the provisions of the State law and pertinent local ordinances.
9. The owners of pets which create a nuisance or interfere with the privacy or peace and quiet of other tenants will be given one written notice to control the pet and a second violation will be cause to require the removal of said pet from the premises. Failure to heed the second notice will be cause for tenant eviction.

Animals that are used to assist the handicapped are excluded from the pet ownership requirements. The above are reasonable regulations adopted by the Lowell Housing Authority and therefore become a lease provision.

Federal Family Developments Pet Policy

1. Ownership conditions - A resident of a dwelling unit in a federally subsidized family public housing development may own one or more common household pets or have one or more common household pets present in the dwelling unit of such resident, subject to the reasonable requirements of the Lowell Housing Authority. Residents may own only one dog or cat but may have other pets such as fish or a bird.
2. Common household pet means "a domesticated animal such as a dog, cat, bird, fish, rodent or turtle." Snakes and lizards are not allowed.

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3. The residents must comply with the following established by the Lowell Housing Authority:

- A. All pets must be registered with the Lowell Housing Authority before they are allowed on the premises. (Registration shall include the naming of an alternate custodian.)
- B. Dogs must be licensed by the City of Lowell and license must be updated annually with a copy of same provided to the Housing Manager.
- C. Dogs/cats must be spayed or neutered whichever is applicable. Certification by a licensed veterinarian must attest to this service and required inoculations in accordance with the State law and local ordinances. Proof of compliance to be submitted to the Lowell Housing Authority prior to entry on the premises.
- D. The resident must maintain each pet in a responsible manner.
- E. Pet owners are to remove and properly dispose of all removable pet waste. In the case of cats, litter boxes are to be changed a minimum of twice per week. Litter is to be double-bagged and disposed of properly.
- F. Dogs/cats shall be appropriately and effectively restrained (leashed) and under the control of a responsible person while in the common areas such as entrance areas and hallways, etc. The use of common areas and hallways for pet exercising or loitering is prohibited. Pets are not to be tied outside and left unattended at any time. Violation of this clause shall be a violation of resident's lease.
- G. Pets are excluded from common areas such as lobbies, laundry rooms, elevators, social/community rooms, and meeting areas.
- H. Residents must comply with all applicable State and local public health, animal control, and animal anti-cruelty laws and regulations.
- I. A limit on the number of animals in a unit. NOT MORE THAN ONE DOG OR CAT PER UNIT.
- J. The following types of animals are prohibited: Dangerous animals such as Rottweilers, German Shepherds, Dobermans, or Pit Bulls. Animals weighing more than 20 lbs at maturity.
- K. Resident shall identify an alternate custodian for pets in the event of resident illness or other absence from the dwelling unit. This identification of an alternate custodian must occur prior to the pet admission permit.

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- L. If the health or safety of a pet is threatened by the death, absence, or incapacity of the owner, and the owner or alternate is unwilling or unable to care for the pet, the Authority is authorized to remove and place the pet in another facility at the owner's expense not to exceed thirty days.
- M. If the pet's conduct or condition is duly determined to be a nuisance or threat to the health or safety of other residents, and the pet owner has failed to correct this violation in accordance with procedures, the Authority may serve a written notice requiring the pet owner to remove the pet from the premises.
- N. Dogs shall not be left unattended for more than 4 hours and cats for more than 12 hours otherwise resident shall be cited. If the pets are left unattended for a period of twenty-four hours or more, the Lowell Housing Authority may enter the dwelling unit, have the dog officer remove the pet and transfer it to the proper agency, subject to the provisions of State Law and pertinent local ordinances.
- O. The owners of pets which create a nuisance or interfere with the privacy or peace and quiet of other tenants will be given one written notice to control the pet and a second violation will be cause to require the removal of said pet from the premises. Failure to heed second notice will be cause for tenant eviction.

Service animals that assist persons with disabilities are excluded from the pet ownership policies. The above are reasonable regulations adopted by the Lowell Housing Authority and therefore become a lease provision.

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PET POLICY CERTIFICATION

I have read and understand the Pet Policy of the Lowell Housing Authority relative to keeping pets in the apartment. I agree to comply with the provisions set forth in the policy.

Resident Name: _____

Resident Address: _____

Resident Signature: _____

I hereby request permission to keep the following pet in my dwelling unit as a resident of the Lowell Housing Authority.

Type of Animal: _____

Licensed by the City of Lowell: YES NO N/A

Veterinary certification of inoculations and spaying/neutering YES NO N/A

My alternating pet custodian: _____

Name

Address

Telephone Number

Property/Asst Manager: _____ Date _____

APPROVED: _____

DISAPPROVED: _____

