



Agreements with a Colorado Licensed Veterinarian

Veterinary Care is one of the cornerstones of the PACFA Program.

Every PACFA licensed facility is required to have a working relationship with a veterinarian that will provide diagnostics and treatment of the pet animals in your care regardless of the license category in which you operate your facility.

- The rules and regulations that govern veterinarians require that they establish a veterinary client patient relationship (VCPR) with an animal in order to provide care.
- Many illnesses that pet animals experience while young and as they age, are overlooked unless veterinary examinations are provided. Kidney disease, dental disease, and pneumonia are a few of the illnesses that can be overlooked.
- Many violations of veterinary care written by PACFA inspectors are outcome based.
- Your veterinarian on record is the single most important person that can protect and treat your animals for illness and your business from penalties.

PACFA Laws and Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Veterinary Agreements:

PACFA Statute §35-80-102(8.7) C.R.S. A "licensed veterinarian" means a person who is licensed to practice veterinary medicine in this state pursuant to Article 315 of Title 12.

8 CCR 1202-15 Part 15.1-15.3, 15.7

- 15.1. Shelters, rescues, and retail/wholesale facilities that do not have a veterinarian on staff shall have a signed and dated written agreement with a licensed veterinarian for services and consultation regarding animal health needs. This agreement must be updated each licensing period. The name and phone number of the veterinarian must be included. Pet animal grooming, boarding/training and breeding facilities shall have a working relationship with a veterinarian to provide timely veterinary care. The name and phone number of the veterinarian must be available to the inspector upon request.
- 15.2 Pet animals must be observed daily for signs of injury or illness by the person in charge of the facility or by an employee working under his/her direct supervision.
- 15.3 Sick, diseased, or injured animals, except for fish and invertebrates, must be provided with timely veterinary care or euthanized in a humane manner under the direction of the facility's veterinarian. Euthanasia must be consistent with §35-80-102(7), C.R.S.
- 15.7 Prescription medication, including prescription bathing products, may only be administered to pet animals under the written direction of a licensed veterinarian.