



**A privately-funded, all-volunteer,
animal rescue organization**

Columbia Second Chance (CSC) is very pleased you are interested in adopting one of our animals! Please read through this for a thorough understanding of what to expect before completing the following application.

We love finding loving, compatible homes for each of our animals and are willing to work with you to determine what age/breed/temperament/type will best suit you and your household needs. However, please be aware that this is a process. You will not be able simply to pay a fee and "purchase" whatever animal you choose and take it home today. Depending upon the animal you are interested in and the circumstances of your home, the adoption process can take a few days or longer.

STEP ONE: Fill out the application completely. This does not obligate you to adopt an animal from CSC, but it does give us some basic relevant information regarding your lifestyle. It provides us with an initial idea of what you are looking for in a companion animal.

Please be aware of the following: we do check your personal references (2) and veterinary history. Please do not leave these areas blank --- we cannot process your application without this information. If you already have pets, they must all be up-to-date on vaccinations. If you already have pets, they must all be spayed and/or neutered. CSC will neuter/spay our puppies and kittens before placing them in a home.

Please list the desired animals or traits in the comments area, such as a particular animal on our website, one you met at an adoption event, or a particular breed or temperament. If you are unsure, even listing some general ideas as to what you are looking for will be helpful. Some good examples of what to write for desired traits would be energetic/playful, couch-potato/sedate, long- or short-haired, and approximate weight or size: large, medium, or small. If you are interested only in an adult who already is housetrained, or a puppy, or a kitten, please specify that.

STEP TWO: We will discuss your pet choices. Once your application is approved, which typically takes a few days, we will contact you and begin working to find the right pet for your particular lifestyle. We know our animals well and can give you important information regarding their individual personalities, energy levels, particular "quirks," how they respond with other animals, and whether or not they do well around children.

STEP THREE: Meet the animal(s) you are considering. This, also, is a process. Please understand that our animals are located in foster homes and kennel-housing situations throughout Boone County and even into adjacent counties. If you are interested in meeting many animals to

find the perfect fit, it likely will take some time to contact foster homes to schedule the transportation of the animals to the Adoption Center to meet you. A pet is a lifetime commitment, so please take your time and meet as many animals as you would like. Please be patient and remember we are an all-volunteer organization with members who maybe will be taking time away from their own family and/or paid-job responsibilities to work with you.

STEP FOUR: Select a pet for the adoption. Once you have decided upon your new family member, you will pay our adoption fee of \$125. Our fee covers all appropriate vaccinations, medications and tests (up until the adoption is finalized), spay and neuter costs, food and housing costs, and microchipping. CSC encourages our potential adopters to take advantage of our sleeper adoption period lasting usually 1 week (extension is available by request) to ensure that the adoption is a good fit for the dog or cat and the adoptive family. We will hold your check during this time.

Also, you will sign a contract promising that you will provide good care for your new family member and keep it up-to-date on routine vaccinations. If for any reason you decide not to keep that animal, you will return it to Columbia Second Chance and no one else. If you have decided upon a sleeper adoption, it will be your responsibility to advise CSC of your final decision before we can mail records.

STEP FIVE: Take your animal home. We will give you information about what kind of food your animal is accustomed to eating, any special instructions, current medications it is taking (if any), and general information about your pet. There will be an adjustment period. Younger animals tend to adjust much more quickly than older animals. Please be patient during this adjustment period. We will remain available by phone, email, or in person at the Adoption Center to answer any questions you may encounter during this time.

We look forward to receiving your completed application and working with you to give our animals a second chance!