



Fostering FAQs

What kind of foster homes are you looking for?

Our biggest needs are environments without small children, other animals, and individuals that have the time to bottle feed kittens. That said, we always need new foster homes and have animals that work in different environments.

<u>Cats</u>	<u>Dogs</u>
Bottle babies (up to 8 hours daily care)	Bottle babies (up to 8 hours daily care)
Weaning kittens (2- 4 hours daily care)	Self feeding puppies (2-4 hours daily care)
Self feeding kittens (1-2 hours daily care)	Mama with puppies (2-4 hours daily care)
Friendly mama with kittens (1-2 hours daily care)	Medical (2-4 hours daily care - depending on situation)
Feral mama with kittens (1-2 hours daily care)	Behavioral/socialization (2-4 hours daily care - depending on situation)
Medical (1-4 hours daily care - depending on situation)	
Socialization (1-2 hours of daily care - depending on situation)	

How often do you need me to foster?

Our foster program applies to a wide range of animals and needs. Fosters are needed when we have an animal that the shelter feels would do better in a home environment. You decide when you would like to foster.

How long will I need to foster this animal?

The time an animal spends in foster care can range from 2 weeks to 6 months. It all depends on the individual animal's needs and progress.

How much will it cost me to foster an animal?

The shelter will provide all supplies and medical care. Fostering a pet is of no expense to you unless you want to provide supplies at your own cost.

Will you contact me when there is an animal for me to foster?

Yes, the shelter will contact you when we have an animal in need that matches with your specific environment and wants for fostering.

Can I name the pet?

Sure, if the pet doesn't currently have a name, you may name them.

What if I want to keep my foster pet?

Work with the shelter if you would like to adopt your foster, you will have first choice as long as you let us know as soon as possible. Please note that Iowa code states that homes with more than 6 pets, cannot foster, so your eligibility to foster may change.

Where should I keep the foster pet?

If you have other animals, it is best to quarantine the foster pet when you initially bring them into your home. A spare room, bathroom, or playpen are good options. If you have supply needs, the shelter can work with you to provide a playpen to keep the foster pet in.

Will a PAWS representative visit my home?

Yes, Iowa code requires a PAWS representative to perform a home visit either in person or virtually.

Do I need to have prior experience or knowledge of fostering?

No, we will train and support you along the way!

What do I do if the foster pet gets sick?

We have an emergency chart to help you decide when and who to call. The shelter covers all medical costs of the pet.

What if I want to go on vacation?

If given enough time, we can usually find fosters to babysit during vacations. The earlier we know, the better we can plan.

Questions or Interest in joining our team?

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