

Domestic Animal Permits

Some animals require a permit in Columbus.

To protect the health and safety of the community as well as the welfare of animals, the Columbus Health Code requires a permit to possess certain domestic animals in city limits.

Domestic animals that need a permit include:

- Alpaca, bison, camel, caribou, cattle, deer, donkey, elk, goat, horse, llama, moose, mule, ox, pig, pony, reindeer, sheep and water buffalo.
- Chickens, turkeys, quail, partridges, ducks, birds raised for meat or eggs, game birds, birds kept or trained for competition, and birds kept outside a structure or shelter.
- Any bird, fowl or other animal as determined by Columbus Public Health.

Submit an application form to request a permit.

- Anyone who wants to get a domestic animal requiring a permit, or who already has a domestic animal requiring a permit, must submit an application to Columbus Public Health. Visit <https://www.columbus.gov/Community/Animals-Pets> to learn more.
- In addition to the application form, the following items will be required:
 - Plans and/or photographs with details on how the animal(s) will be caged or confined.
 - A written document describing the disinfection and cleaning schedule.
 - A written document outlining proper handling and care of the animal(s).
 - Permission to bring the animal(s) into the City.
 - An initial property inspection by Columbus Public Health.
 - Payment of the plan review fee.

Columbus Public Health will review your application and collect fees.

- After an application is received, notice will be sent to the applicant outlining any other required items for the type of animal, license and fees.
- Permits and fees vary and depend on the license category and type of animal.
- Plan review fees and license fees are non-refundable.

Other permit details include:

- Licensing categories include small animal, large animal, businesses, mobile venues and temporary events.
- Permits are good for either one year or four years, depending on the type of animal(s) and use of the animal(s). Permits expire on the last day of December. Applications for *renewal* must be received or postmarked on or before the last day of December of the expiration year.
- While subject to all other permit requirements, applicants who are eligible for SNAP or WIC nutrition programs are not required to pay any fees.

For questions or more information, contact the Public Health Veterinarian at 614-645-6748 or visit <https://www.columbus.gov/Community/Animals-Pets>.