



PET GUARDIANSHIP FAQs

Do I need to give annually if my pet is enrolled in Pet Guardianship?

- You do not need to give an annual gift, although we welcome your support!
- We simply ask that you have named HSSV as a beneficiary of one of the following:
 - your will or trust
 - Retirement account (IRA, 401k, 403b, Roth IRA)
 - Charitable Remainder Trust
 - Charitable Lead Trust
 - Charitable Gift Annuity
 - Life insurance policy
 - Donor Advised Fund
 - Other account that designates a beneficiary

How much do I have to donate in my estate to qualify for Pet Guardianship?

- Instead of considering your gift as \$X per pet, you may want to consider a meaningful legacy gift where you can direct it to the specific programs about which you're most passionate.
- If you simply want to ensure you have covered the cost of their pet in our care, we don't require a minimum gift, but we do ask that you consider the potential age and health of your pet in the years ahead.
 - We often find that older pets (or those who have an elderly owner who can't get them to the vet regularly) arrive with extensive dental issues and/or medical conditions that require surgery or ongoing treatment.
 - In addition, if your pet is older, they likely will remain longer in our care before we find their future home.
- It is common for pet owners to provide gifts of \$10,000 per pet in Trusts specifically to cover Pet Guardianship.

What is the benefit of Pet Guardianship over surrender?

- Pets enrolled in the Pet Guardianship program can be taken in almost immediately, usually within 24- 48 hours. Without Pet Guardianship there is no guarantee we can take in your pet, or they may be on a waiting list for weeks or months, requiring someone else to care for them in the interim.
- Because you have already provided all the information on your pet, friends or family don't have to struggle to provide your pet's background information.
- We know we have a gift from you coming in the future to help cover the care of your pet, so there is no surrender fee.

Do you reject applications for Pet Guardianship?

- We have never rejected a Guardianship application based on health history.
- However, if your pet has major known behavioral issues that would make them unadoptable to others, we may not be able to promise we can take them in.

Is there a limit to the number of pets you take?

- We don't have a limit to the number of pets we can take in at one time, but we do expect that it's a reasonable number of pets (for example, no more than 6).

What happens after I submit my pet's bio?

- You receive a confirmation letter that your pet is enrolled AND a magnet to place on your refrigerator to notify emergency personnel that pets should be brought to HSSV in case of emergency
- We ask that you keep us updated on any health changes of your pet, or if you have changed veterinarians, so we can access the most recent medical records
- If a pet has passed away, or if you have added new pets to your household, please let us know

What if two of my pets are bonded and should be rehomed together?

- If your pets are bonded, please be sure to complete the "[Companionship Supplement](#)" form and include it with your pets' biographies, so we can ensure they are rehomed together.