

Foster Policies for Cats and Kittens in Foster Care

Below are policies regarding all felines in foster care regardless of subprogram:

- All illness, diagnosed or suspected, must be disclosed to the foster using the terminology provided by the medical team.
- Calicivirus: cats with diagnosed or suspected calicivirus must be placed in foster homes with no other cats. They may not be co-housed until cleared by the clinic for cohabitation, which is typically 2 weeks after the cat has been clear of all symptoms. Homes are considered to be calici exposed for 1 week after the date the calici cat/s were cleared of calici.
- Feline Leukemia: cats exposed to or diagnosed with FeLV cannot be placed in homes with FeLV negative cats. Permission of the Program Manager and Clinic Manager is required to deviate in special circumstance.
- All fosters must be advised to isolate existing pets from any new fosters for 10-14 days.
- Panleukopenia: cats with diagnosed, suspected, or who have been exposed to panleukopenia must be placed in designated Panleuk Foster Homes. Homes are considered to be panleuk exposed for 6 months after the date the panleuk cat/s exited. During that time, the home can only foster cats/kittens that have had 2 or more FVRCP vaccines.
- Ringworm: cats with diagnosed or suspected ringworm may not cohabitate with cats who are free of ringworm. If one kitten in a litter has been diagnosed with ringworm, the entire litter is considered ringworm positive. A cat is not considered clear of ringworm until the medical team or Ringworm Manager has cleared the cat.
- All foster homes have a 2 "crate limit". A "crate" of animals is defined as follows: Litter of kittens with mother; Litter of kittens without mother (may be teen kittens or kittens eating on their own); One adult; Bonded pair of adults. Any foster above the cage limit must be approved by a Program Manager or their superior.
- Before placing a cat in foster care, the foster manager/s will ensure there are no restrictions or bans placed on that foster home, by consulting the Cat Foster Notes - Banned & Restricted Spreadsheet.
- All foster parents must have a completed foster application on file with APA! prior to taking home a cat.
- Within 48 hours of foster placement or movement, the foster team/s will enter a Foster Stay in ShelterLuv; enter the placement location of each cat as well as pertinent information such as name, gender, and age; and update the corresponding Foster Tracking Spreadsheet/s.
- When Foster Team/s are planning on intake of cats that come to the clinic, the Foster Team/s are required to email medmanagers@ and medreceptionist@ before the cats' arrival with details of the cats, arrival estimate, and placement of cats after intake.
- All cats within the APA! Foster program must be kept indoor only.
- Any cat who has been reported as missing must be reported to the Program Manager and within 24 hours.
- Any cat who has been reported as deceased must be reported to the Program Manager, and medmanager@ within 24 hours.