

Perpetual Care Programs: Veterinarian School Programs

We provide this information as a resource only. We do not endorse or recommend any specific facility or organization. We will continue to update this section as we receive new information.

CALIFORNIA

Tender Loving Care (TLC) for Pets

Web site: www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/ccah

Contact: M'Liss Regent-Cunha, development stewardship officer, 530-754-6175

E-mail: mregent@ucdavis.edu

Address: TLC for Pets, Center for Companion Animal Health, UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, One Shields Avenue, Davis, CA 95616

Phone: 530-752-7024

Type of animals accepted: Cats, dogs, horses, and ponies (no birds at this time)

Limited animal number? No limit

Rates: For the TLC for Pets program, the enrollment fee is \$1,000 for each companion pet and \$250 for each subsequent pet (this rate is anticipated to change in the near future). For the TLC for Horses program, the enrollment fee is \$2,000 for each pony or horse, regardless of how many are enrolled. For companion pets, such as dogs and cats, there is a \$30,000 deposit fee. The deposit for the TLC for Horses program is \$40,000 for horses or ponies up to 12 hands in height and \$60,000 for horses greater than 12 hands in height.

Number of pets currently enrolled in program: Three owners with a total of eight animals are currently enrolled.

Are pets adopted? Companion pets will be assigned to homes of caretakers who are identified through the UC School of Veterinary Medicine after a prescreening.

Where do pets live until adopted? They will be temporarily housed at the UC Davis William R. Pritchard Veterinary Teaching Hospital during their preadoptive health and behavior assessment.

How are pets transported from pet owner's home to program's facility? Pet owners will need to arrange transportation unless they live within 50 miles of the university.

How long has program been in existence? The program was formalized in 2005.

Program description: Tender Loving Care for Pets (TLC) is a program at the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine designed to provide lifetime veterinary services and pet care monitoring to pets that are predeceased by their loving owners. Through their estate plans, owners can establish funds to provide necessary lifetime medical care for their pets at the Center for Companion Animal Health (CAAH). Pet caretakers will be able to bring enrolled pets to the UC Davis William R. Pritchard Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital (PVMTH) for annual examinations and vaccinations, as well as for emergency or chronic illness care. As the pets age, more frequent examinations will be provided for senior pet care. All the veterinary care provided to enrolled pets at the PVMTH will be free of charge to the TLC for Pets caretakers.

The TLC for Pets program schedules an initial meeting with the owner to identify the animal's health care needs and behavior traits. TLC members would also be able to meet pet caretakers at various school events. Caretakers are identified as faculty, staff, students, and other individuals or families who are part of the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine community. A prescreening is conducted to determine whether the pet would be suitable in a caretaker's home. Once in the program, the pets are eligible for annual health and emergency checkups at the PVMTH. Annual monitoring is provided to ensure that pet care expectations are met.

When asked if there is something about the program that is special compared with other perpetual care programs, M'Liss Regent-Cunha responded: "Pets are cared for in the way you intended; established institution with worldwide reputation; individualized behavior assessments; formalized contract with university; small up-front enrollment fee and life-time veterinary cost provided through estate plans; lifetime monitoring of pet(s)."

INDIANA

Purdue School of Veterinary Medicine Peace of Mind Program

Web site: www.vet.purdue.edu/development

Contact: Becky Hershey

Address: 1240 Lynn Hall, Rm. 1177A, West Lafayette, IN 47907-1240

Phone: 1-800-830-0104 or 765-494-0791

Fax: 765-496-1261

E-mail: bhershey@purdue.edu or development@vet.purdue.edu

Type of animals accepted: N/A

Limited animal number? No, because pets are adopted out

Rates: Minimum of \$25,000

Number of pets currently enrolled in program: 40

Are pets adopted? Yes

Where do pets live until adopted? N/A

How are pets transported from pet owner's home to program's facility? N/A

How long has program been in existence? 20 years

Program description: Pets are part of the family. It's perfectly natural—and very responsible—to plan now for your pet's future. Through the Purdue School of Veterinary Medicine Peace of Mind Program, you can ensure that your pet will continue to receive compassionate care if the pet outlives you.

This program is designed to give you peace of mind that your pets will be cared for should they be orphaned. By including the program in your will, you can be assured that your pet(s) will be placed in a good home and that their medical expenses will be taken care of for the remainder of their lives.

KANSAS

Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine Perpetual Pet Care Program

Web site: www.vet.k-state.edu/depts/development/perpet/index.htm

Contact: Chris Gruber

Address: 1700 Denison Ave., 103 Trotter Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506

Phone: 785-532-4378

Fax: 785-532-5999

E-mail: perpetualpetcare@vet.k-state.edu

Type of animals accepted: Large and small—cats, dogs, horses, birds, rabbits, snakes, etc.

Limited animal number? No, because pets are adopted out

Rates: \$25,000 (small animal), \$50,000 (large animal), \$75,000 (special needs animal); no deposit is required. A planned gift can be used for enrollment through life insurance, a bequest in a will, etc.

Number of pets currently enrolled in program: 24 families with a total of 80 pets

Are pets adopted? Yes

Where do pets live until adopted? Pets live with foster families identified in the program's area.
How are pets transported from pet owner's home to program's facility? People from the program will either drive or fly to pick up the animal(s). Some families have identified individuals in their area who will adopt the pet(s), so the program members travel to them to ensure that all details are finalized.

How long has program been in existence? The program has been around since 1996.

Program description: The Perpetual Pet Care Program at Kansas State is a unique program that allows pet owners to make special arrangements for the continuous care of their animal companions should their pets outlive them. The Kansas State Foundation works closely with you to develop a personalized memorandum of understanding that lets you define preferences for the long-term care of your animal companion. It will also designate the use of your charitable bequest once your pet no longer requires financial support.

This program finds a home matching your wishes for your animal(s) and provides complete medical care for the rest of the animal's life. Finding a stable, loving home for the pet once the owner is unable to care for his or her animal is one of the most important aspects of the program. Unless the owner has identified an adoptive home, trained veterinary students and clinical specialists at the Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital attend to all the needs of each pet until an appropriate adoptive home is located through an extensive screening process. This adoption ensures that the pet will bond with one owner.

After the animal is adopted and lives out the rest of its life with its new family, the remainder of the bequest goes to an initiative within the College of Veterinary Medicine as designated by the original owner, such as facilities, research, scholarships, or the teaching hospital.

Providing an adoptive home with individual attention outside the hospital and college is a unique aspect of the Perpetual Pet Care Program at Kansas State. After the animal is adopted, Perpetual Pet Care Program staff members monitor your pet's new home, care, and lifestyle. Each animal is adopted by a good home as soon as the extensive screening process is completed. The goal of the Perpetual Pet Care Program is to replicate the living environment as close as possible to what the animal is accustomed to, giving you peace of mind that your animals will be taken care of for the remainder of their lives.

MINNESOTA

PerPETual Care—University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine

Web site: www.cvm.umn.edu/devalumni/perpetualcare

Address: University of Minnesota, College of Veterinary Medicine, 1365 Gortner Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55108-9936

Phone: 612-624-1247

Type of animals accepted: Limited to dogs and cats

Limit on animals accepted? Contact program administrator

Rates: Pet owners pay a one-time enrollment fee and make a minimum \$25,000 charitable bequest in their estate to the College of Veterinary Medicine. They also may use a life insurance policy to fulfill the program's requirements.

Number of pets currently enrolled in program: N/A

Are pets adopted? Through the program, foster owners have the opportunity to adopt pets that come from loving homes, with the benefit of paid pet health care and food.

Where do pets live until adopted? The pets live in foster homes.

How are pets transported from pet owner's home to program's facility? Transportation provisions are stipulated in the initial arrangements.

How long has program been in existence? N/A

Program description: The University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine's innovative PerPETual Care program gives pet owners a way to ensure continued, high-quality care for their cats and dogs when they are no longer able to care for them or if their pets outlive them. The program, which provides a form of estate planning for companion animals, is open to dog and cat owners nationwide. In the event of the pet owner's death, the PerPETual Care program arranges to place the orphaned pet in a caring foster home. The program also will cover the cost of the pet's medical care and food throughout its lifetime. Unlike some other programs, the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine program covers the cost to transport the orphaned pet to a carefully selected Minnesota home. Funding for the PerPETual Care program is provided through the estate gifts arranged by pet owners. These funds provide an important source of future support for the college.

How the program works:

1. Request and complete the enrollment form.
2. Include the program in your will. The College of Veterinary Medicine will work with you and your attorney to complete arrangements.
3. Provide the College of Veterinary Medicine with a copy of the PerPETual Care will provision.
4. Notify a friend, relative or neighbor, and the executor of your estate, that your pet is enrolled in the College of Veterinary Medicine PerPETual Care Program. A pet tag with the PerPETual Care phone number is provided upon enrollment.
5. When a PerPETual Care pet is orphaned by the owner's death, any of the above-mentioned contacts can notify the college. The college works with veterinarians in the community to identify a new home and make sure the pet's medical needs are met.
6. The estate makes the designated gift to the college, supporting the college's animal health care programs.
7. The pet's well-being is monitored through follow-up contact with the new owners.

Multiple-pet situations are handled on a case-by-case basis. Preferences regarding keeping pets together may be expressed in a separate letter. Since the college retains the right to identify suitable homes for each pet, however, these preferences cannot be stipulated as part of the actual will provision.

OKLAHOMA

Perpetual Pet Care Program—Oklahoma State University Center for Veterinary Health Services

Web site: <http://www.cvm.okstate.edu/>

Contact: Sharon Worrell

Address: Stillwater Oklahoma 74078

Phone: 405-744-6651

Fax: None provided

E-mail: sworrell@osugiving.com

Type of animals accepted: The program accepts dogs, cats, horses, and llamas; will discuss other animals on an as-needed basis.

Limited animal number? The number of pets the program can accept is limited to facility capacity. The facility is not open to the public in terms of boarding. The animals referred to above and enrolled in the program are endowed gift animals.

Rates: Enrollment fees vary by animal; dog = \$25,000, cat = \$15,000, large animal = \$50,000.

Number of pets currently enrolled in program: 9

Are pets adopted? Pets can be adopted if so designated by the donor.

Where do pets live until adopted? Pets are located in the care shelter until adopted.

How are pets transported from pet owner's home to program's facility? When the agreement for perpetual care is administrated, a donor will name an individual responsible for transportation of the companion animal.

How long has program been in existence? The program has been in existence since 1998.

Program description: The Perpetual Pet Care Program provides pet owners a means by which they can address the needs of their companion animals in a will provision. In the event of the pet owner's death or incapacitation, the program arranges to place the orphaned pet in a caring and safe environment while providing for the pet's needed medical care and nutrition.

TEXAS

Stevenson Companion Animal Life-Care Center

Web site: www.cvm.tamu.edu/petcare/index.htm (A video tour of the center is available on the web site.)

Contact: Director Henry L. "Sonny" Presnal, DVM, at spresnal@cvm.tamu.edu; Assistant to the Director Mrs. Ellie Greenbaum at egreenbaum@cvm.tamu.edu; Veterinary Technician Mrs. Janet Broadhead, RVT, at jbroadhead@cvm.tamu.edu; or Animal Caretaker Mrs. Kimberly Muth

Address: College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, TAMU 4461, College Station, TX 77843-4461

Phone: 979-845-1188

Fax: 979-845-1425

E-mail: egreenbaum@cvm.tamu.edu

Type of animals accepted: Dogs, cats, birds, horses, and even a donkey

Limited animal number? Not specified

Rates: A fee* of \$1,000 per small animal and \$2,000 per large animal is due at the time of enrollment. The minimum endowment requirements vary depending on the age of the owner at the time of the enrollment. For specific information about enrollment, please contact an administrator at the center.

*Enrollment fees are not considered a charitable gift for tax purposes.

Number of pets currently enrolled in program: At the time of contact, the center houses 9 cats, 12 dogs, and 1 llama.

Are pets adopted? Pets are housed at the center.

Where do pets live until adopted? N/A

How are pets transported from pet owner's home to program's facility? The center staff will pick up pets anywhere in Texas. Enrollees from out of state will need to make arrangements to have the pets transported to Texas or to the center.

How long has program been in existence? The program has been in existence since 1993.

Program description: The Stevenson Companion Animal Life-Care Center provides for the physical, emotional, and medical needs of companion animals whose owners are no longer able to provide that care. Clients of the center include pet owners who want to ensure their pets' futures before entering a retirement home, being hospitalized for an extended period, or predeceasing a pet. Enrollees at the center include dogs, cats, birds, horses, and even a donkey. We encourage prospective clients to visit the center and speak with an administrator to learn more about the program.

The center was established by the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine in 1993 at the suggestion of Dr. E. W. "Ned" Ellett, former head of the Small Animal Clinic at Texas A&M University. Dr. Ellett's dream became a reality with generous donations from the Luse Foundation and Mrs. Madlin Stevenson. Mrs. Stevenson said she chose to support the center because "animals are especially important to the elderly; this center is dedicated to them and their pets." Mrs. Stevenson, a lifelong animal lover, passed away in September 2000. Her four cats, seven dogs, pony, and llama came to reside at the center at that time.

The center is designed in a relaxed fashion. The animals have freedom to roam and explore at will, while also having space for themselves during quiet times. There are five separate yard areas for the dogs to get plenty of sunshine and exercise. The cats have access in and out of their rooms through upper windows in the doors, but the dogs do not have access to the cat rooms.

The Stevenson Companion Animal Life-Care Center is a privately funded, state-of-the-art animal care program designed to provide personalized care in a home-like environment. Pets, as friends and members of your family, depend on you for lifelong care. This program is designed to provide that care for your pets in the event they are left behind.

Medical care includes regular physical examinations and laboratory tests as needed. Each pet is observed in order to develop a personal "wellness" program. When the pets need medical attention, their care is provided by the Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital. The staff's knowledge of the latest advances in veterinary medicine, combined with the use of specialized facilities, ensures the best possible care for the residents.

Residents receive daily exercise in their large fenced-yard areas. There are Frisbees, rope tugs, balls, and an array of toys to keep the dogs occupied and happy. All residents receive regularly scheduled bathing and grooming. Nutritional concerns are also monitored, and special diets are developed for residents with special needs.

The center currently houses 9 cats, 12 dogs, and 1 llama. The center also houses Texas A&M students who live on site to ensure 24-hour care and company for the residents. These students are typically aspiring veterinarians and are a great asset to the center. Other student workers assist with housekeeping and grooming chores throughout the week.

Support: The center receives no public funding; it is dependent on private endowments and gifts. While care for each pet is covered by individual endowments, the facility's furnishings and "little extras" that make this program unique are provided through generous gifts.

The center is thankful for generous gifts from caring pet owners and advocates. Your support ensures that the Stevenson Center continues to offer first-rate care to these beloved pets that are left behind.

An excellent way to honor a deceased pet, an animal-loving friend, a relative, or your veterinarian is with a memorial gift to the center. Gifts of all amounts are appreciated.

The center's current priorities for gift funds are the following: toys, treats, and beds (always in demand), grooming supplies and equipment, and miscellaneous "creature comfort" items—especially bedding.

(note—WASHINGTON program has been cancelled)