Information for Veterinarians
The Illinois Department of Public Health encourages veterinarians to participate in the program.

- Any veterinarian practicing in the state of Illinois may participate in the program.
- Prior to participation in the program, veterinarians must successfully complete the application process.
- Veterinarians are reimbursed for services based on the type and weight of animal, in accordance with the fee schedule established by the Department.
- Veterinarians who voluntarily participate in this sterilization and vaccination program may decline to treat feral cats if they choose.

For additional information or to enroll in the program, please contact the Illinois Department of Public Health at 217-782-3984.

Checklist
- Meet eligibility requirements
- Submit application with proof of eligibility to Department
- Present the approved application to a veterinarian who is participating in the program
- Pay the veterinarian a $15 co-pay (per animal) at the time of the surgery

525 West Jefferson Street
Springfield, Illinois 62761
217-782-3984
TTY (hearing impaired use only)
800-547-0466
http://www.idph.state.il.us

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**What is the Program?**

The legislation was named in memory of Anna Cieslewicz, who was attacked and killed by stray dogs in 2002 while jogging in Chicago's Dan Ryan Woods. The act was introduced as a means to protect the public safety by decreasing the number of dangerous dogs, stray dogs and feral cat populations throughout the state.

**Who is Eligible?**
In order to be eligible for the program you must:

- be a resident of the state of Illinois;
- own a dog or cat; and
- be eligible for the Food Stamp Program or the Social Security Disability Insurance Benefits Program. (A copy of a Notice of Decision, Statement of Benefits, or a letter from a local food stamp office is acceptable proof of eligibility).

**Information for Feral Cat Managers**
A resident of this state who is managing a feral cat colony and who humanely traps feral cats for spaying or neutering and return also is eligible to participate in the program. However, the trap/sterilize/return program must be recognized by the municipality or by the county.

Proof of recognition must be provided to the Department. A separate application is required for each feral cat.

You must pay the veterinarian a $15 co-pay, per animal, at the time of the surgery.

**How Do I Participate?**
If you meet the eligibility requirements, you may participate by filling out an application and mailing it to the Department.

Applications are available at local health departments, food stamp offices, and some veterinarian offices. Applications also are available by calling the Department at 217-782-3984.

Upon approval, your application will be returned to you. The application should be taken to a veterinarian who is participating in the program. A list of participating veterinarians is available from the Department.

You must pay the veterinarian a $15 co-pay, per animal, at the time of the surgery.