



# Housing Authority of the City of El Paso

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The Housing Opportunity Management Enterprises (HOME) invites the public to provide comments on its 2022 Pet Policy for the Public Housing Program. The following Public Hearing will be conducted by the HOME Board of Commissioners at the Blue Flame Building, 304 Texas, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor, El Paso, TX 79901

**Hearing Date and Time:**

October 19, 2022, at 5 p.m. MT

**To Listen or Watch the Meeting:**

Call +1 (650) 479-3208 Phone Conference ID: 25958205854  
Link: [http://www.ehome.org/business/public\\_notices/index.php](http://www.ehome.org/business/public_notices/index.php).

The 2022 Pet Policy for the Public Housing Program will be available for public review at HOME's Central Administrative Offices located at 5300 E. Paisano Dr. and on its website at [www.ehome.org](http://www.ehome.org).

**Public Review and Comment Period:**

August 30 – October 18, 2022  
(8:00 a.m. – 11:59 a.m.)

Comments concerning the aforementioned documents may be given orally at the Public Hearing or written comments may be submitted during the review period to:

**Maria Flores, Director of Operations**  
**Housing Authority of the City of El Paso, Texas**

**[maflores@ephome.org](mailto:maflores@ephome.org)**

304 Texas Ave. Ste. 1600

El Paso, Texas 79901

Telephone: (915) 849-3824 Fax Number: (915) 849-3822

The Housing Opportunity Management Enterprises (HOME) does not discriminate against persons with disabilities. If you or anyone in your family is a person with a disability and require a specific accommodation in order to fully participate in the public hearing or comment on the Plan, please contact the Equal Opportunity Compliance Officer at 915-849-3820.

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**304 Texas Ave. Ste. 1600, El Paso, Texas 79901**  
**P.O. Box 9895 - El Paso, Texas 79995 - (915) 849-3737 VOICE/TDD**



# Public Housing - Pet Policy

## Background

Pet ownership by Public Housing residents is allowed subject to compliance with the requirements set forth in this policy.

Residents wanting to own a pet at HOME-owned properties must apply via this Pet Policy by completing the Pet Ownership Application (POA). POAs will be processed within thirty (30) days of receipt, provided all required documentation is provided at the time of submittal. Approval and denial of POAs shall be in writing. Approvals will be accompanied by a Lease Amendment the resident will be required to sign while denials will include the reason for denial.

**PLEASE NOTE: Pets are not allowed to reside at HOME-owned properties until the resident receives authorization from the Property Management Office.**

## Policy

1. A common household pet is limited to a domesticated cat, dog, bird, or fish. Reptiles and rodents of any kind and wild or feral animals are prohibited.
2. Each household will have only one cat or one dog. The limit for birds is one bird cage while households to one (1) ten (10) gallon aquarium.
3. The cat or dog's weight shall not exceed twenty-five (25) pounds at an adult age and its height shall not exceed fifteen (15) inches.
4. Pet owners will license their pets yearly with the City of El Paso, Texas. The pet owner will be responsible for proper care - good nutrition, required vaccinations, grooming, exercise, flea control, and routine veterinary care.
5. No pet owner will keep a pet in violation of state or local health or humane laws or ordinances. Any failure of these pet ownership rules to contain other applicable state or local laws, or ordinances does not relieve the pet owner of the responsibility for complying with such requirements.
6. The pet owner will have his or her cat or dog sterilized and microchipped prior to approval. A veterinarian will provide written verification that the animal has been sterilized. Exceptions to the sterilization requirement will be granted only upon certification from a veterinarian that permanent harm may result from this procedure due to the pet's age or illness.
7. Dog and cat owners must show the Property Management Office proof of sterilization and microchipping prior to approval. Proof of rabies, vaccination, and licensing will also be provided prior to approval and at annual certification thereafter.
8. Dogs and cats must wear an identification tag collar and current rabies vaccination/registration tags.
9. The pet owner will house the pet inside his or her dwelling unit. Cats and dogs will be kept on leash or in an animal carrier and an adult shall control the animal when it is taken out of the dwelling unit for any purpose. Pets may not be tied to any fixed object anywhere outside the dwelling unit. The owner of a bird(s) shall always confine them to a cage. No pet owner will allow his or her pet to be loose outside the dwelling unit at any time.
10. No resident will keep, raise, train, breed, groom, or otherwise maintain any pet at any location, within HOME-owned properties either inside or outside the dwelling unit for any commercial purpose.
11. No pet owner will keep a vicious or intimidating pet on the premises. The pet owner's declining, delaying, or refusing to remove the pet from the premises may result in termination of the Residential Lease Agreement.

12. No pet owner will permit his or her pet to disturb, interfere with, or diminish the peaceful enjoyment of the pet owner's neighbors or other residents' unit and related amenities/facilities. The terms "disturb, interfere with

or diminish" shall include but not be limited to barking, howling, biting, scratching, chirping and other activities of a disturbing nature. If the pet owner declines, delays, or refuses to remove the pet from the premises, the Residential Lease Agreement may be terminated.

13. A cat owner will have a sanitary litter box inside the dwelling unit and will maintain the litter box clean. The owner will not permit refuse from the litter box to accumulate or to become unsanitary or unsightly and shall dispose of droppings by placing them in a sack in and properly dispose of them.
14. A dog owner will remove the animal's droppings immediately. The owner will not permit dog droppings to accumulate or to become unsanitary or unsightly and shall dispose of such droppings by placing them in a sack and properly dispose of them.
15. Toilets are not designed to handle pet litter. Under no circumstances should any pet litter be deposited in a toilet as blockages will occur. Tenants will be responsible for the cost of repairs or replacements of any damaged toilets or plumbing.
16. The pet owner will take the precautions and measures necessary to eliminate pet odors within and around the dwelling unit and will maintain the dwelling unit in a sanitary condition at all times, as stipulated in the Residential Lease Agreement.
17. The pet owner will restrain the pet and prevent the pet from gnawing, chewing, scratching or otherwise defacing doors, walls, windows, and floor covering of the unit, other units, and common areas, as well as shrubs and landscaping of the facility. The pet owner will incur cost for any such damages.
18. No pet owner will alter the dwelling unit or the surrounding premises to create a space, hole, container, or enclosure for any pet unless requested in writing and authorized by the Property Management Office.
19. Property Management staff will contact proper authorities to enter a dwelling unit where a pet has been left unattended for twenty-four (24) hours, remove the pet, and transfer it to the proper local facility, subject to any provisions of state or local law or ordinances in this regard. HOME or Property Management staff will not assume responsibility or liability for the pet under such circumstances.
20. Each pet owner will pay a refundable pet deposit of two hundred (\$200) dollars There will be no deposit or additional charges for one (1) fish aquarium and/or one (1) bird cage. The pet deposit is not part of the rent payable by the pet owner and is in addition to any other financial obligation generally imposed on residents of the development where the pet owner lives. The Property Management Office will use the pet deposit to pay reasonable expenses directly attributable to the presence of the pet in the community, including, but not limited to the cost of repairs and replacements to, and the fumigation of, the pet owner's dwelling unit. The unused portion of the refundable pet deposit will be refunded to the pet owner within thirty (30) days after the pet owner moves from the dwelling unit or no longer keeps a pet in the dwelling unit. The pet deposit is not applicable to Assistance Animals.
21. All residents are prohibited from feeding, housing, or caring for stray animals or birds. Such action shall constitute having a pet without permission of the Property Management Office.
22. Each pet owner will identify an alternate custodian for his or her pet. If the pet owner is ill or absent from the dwelling unit and unable to care for his or her pet, the alternate custodian will assume responsibility for the care and keeping of the pet, including, if necessary, the removal of the pet from HOME-owned premises.
23. The pet owner must arrange to secure the pet when Property Management staff needs to enter the unit for repairs or inspections or as needed by Property Management. Property Management staff may refuse to enter a unit to perform tasks if the pet acts in a threatening or dangerous manner.
24. Should a resident breach any of the rules set forth above, Property Management may revoke the pet permit under the Residential Lease Agreement which may lead to terminating the Residential Lease Agreement.

**PLEASE NOTE: This policy does not govern assistance animals. Please refer to the Assistance Animal Policy for information regarding assistance animals.**

**Acknowledgement**

I have read and understand the above Pet Policy and:

**Am Applying for Pet Approval**

**Do Not Own a Pet**

Name of Head of Household \_\_\_\_\_

Unit # \_\_\_\_\_

Head of Household Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_