

## 2023 Kansas Statutes

**47-1731. Dogs and cats; spaying or neutering required, when.** (a) No dog or cat may be transferred to the permanent custody of a prospective owner by a pound or animal shelter, as defined by K.S.A. 47-1701, and amendments thereto, or by a humane society, unless:

(1) Such dog or cat has been surgically spayed or neutered before the physical transfer of the animal occurs; or  
(2) the prospective owner signs an agreement to have the dog or cat spayed or neutered and deposits with the pound or animal shelter funds not less than the lowest nor more than the highest cost of spaying or neutering in the community. Any funds deposited pursuant to such an agreement shall be refunded to such person upon presentation of a written statement signed by a licensed veterinarian that the dog or cat has been spayed or neutered. If such person does not reclaim the deposit within six months after receiving custody of the animal, the pound or animal shelter shall keep the deposit and may reclaim the unspayed or unneutered animal.

(b) No person shall spay or neuter any dog or cat for or on behalf of a pound or animal shelter unless such person is a licensed veterinarian or a student currently enrolled in the college of veterinary medicine, Kansas state university, who has completed at least two years of study in the veterinary medical curriculum and is participating in a spay or neuter program and as part of the curriculum under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian. Students shall only spay or neuter any dog or cat that belongs to the pound or animal shelter, and shall not spay or neuter any dog or cat that belongs to a member or\* of the public. No pound or animal shelter shall designate the veterinarian which a person must use, or a list from which a person must select a veterinarian, to spay or neuter a dog or cat transferred by such person from such pound or animal shelter. Any premises located in the state of Kansas where the spaying, neutering or any other practice of veterinary medicine occurs shall register such premises with the board of veterinary examiners.

(c) With the written approval of the animal health commissioner, any pound or shelter may use an innovative spay or neuter program not precisely meeting the requirements of subsection (a)(2), if the pound or shelter can prove to the commissioner that it is actively enforcing the spaying and neutering requirements set forth in this statute.

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require sterilization of a dog or cat which is being held by a pound or animal shelter and which may be claimed by its rightful owner within the holding period established in K.S.A. 47-1710, and amendments thereto.

(e) The animal health commissioner shall promulgate rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

**History:** L. 1988, ch. 185, § 1; L. 1993, ch. 59, § 1; L. 1995, ch. 244, § 9; L. 1996, ch. 151, § 27; L. 2000, ch. 31, § 2; L. 2011, ch. 68, § 2; L. 2012, ch. 140, § 100; July 1.

\* The "or" should have been deleted.