GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Department of **Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety**

Subsidised Pet Sterilisation Program

Guidelines

Purpose

The State Government is committed to supporting responsible pet ownership and improving animal welfare outcomes across Western Australia.

The Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety (LGIRS) is delivering the Subsidised Pet Sterilisation Program (Program) to improve access to affordable sterilisation services for eligible pet owners and support compliance with cat and dog sterilisation requirements.

By reducing financial barriers to sterilisation, the Program aims to increase the number of cats and dogs sterilised across Western Australia, reduce unwanted litters, support responsible pet ownership and improve animal welfare outcomes, including in regional and remote communities.

Overview

Eligible organisations may apply for funding to deliver subsidised sterilisation services for cats and/or dogs to eligible Western Australian pet owners.

A total of $500,000 is available during 2026-27. Applications can be made for fixed grant amounts of $250,000, $100,000 or $50,000.

Applicants must nominate the highest grant amount sought and demonstrate their capacity to effectively deliver services to 30 June 2027 – consistent with the terms outlined in these guidelines.

These guidelines outline the details that must be included in applications – with a focus on:

- the number of sterilisations proposed;
- geographic service locations;
- delivery arrangements;
- proposed grant funding per sterilisation; and
- any contribution to be paid by pet owners.

Key Dates

Grant opening date: **2 November 2026**
Grant closing date: **27 November 2026**
Assessment and notification of outcomes: **December 2026 - January 2027**
Preparation and execution of Financial Assistance Agreements: **January - February 2027**
Funds released: **February 2027**
Acquittal period: **30 June 2027**

Applications received after the closing date will not be accepted.

Eligibility

Eligible applicants

Applicants must be legally constituted organisations capable of delivering subsidised pet sterilisation services in Western Australia. Eligible applicants include:

- animal welfare organisations;
- not-for-profit organisations;
- veterinary service providers;
- incorporated associations;
- charities; and
- organisations with established veterinary delivery partnerships.

Applicants must:

- hold a valid ABN;
- operate in Western Australia;
- demonstrate suitable governance and financial management arrangements;
- demonstrate how eligible pet owners will be verified; and
- have access to appropriately qualified veterinary practitioners.

Eligible pet owners

Funded services may only be provided to pet owners who:

- reside in Western Australia;
- own the animal being sterilised; and
- hold a current:
    - Pensioner Concession Card;
    - Health Care Card; or
    - WA Seniors Card.

Successful applicants must maintain processes to verify both pet ownership and concession eligibility.

Eligible activities

Funding may be used for reasonable costs directly associated with delivering sterilisation services, but limited to:

- veterinary sterilisation procedures;
- clinical costs directly required to undertake procedures;
- administration and coordination costs directly supporting service delivery; and
- metropolitan, regional and remote delivery costs.

Application Process

The Completed **Sterilisation Program Application Form** must be submitted to SPSP@lgirs.wa.gov.au by 27 November 2026..

Applications must include:

- organisational and ABN details;
- grant amount sought;
- proposed verification process for eligible pet owners;
- whether funding is sought for cats, dogs or both;
- proposed sterilisation volumes;
- proposed grant funding per sterilisation;
- any proposed pet-owner contribution;
- service locations and geographic coverage;
- veterinary delivery arrangements;
- detailed project budget; and
- any supporting documentation requested by LGIRS.

Applicants are responsible for ensuring all required information is complete and accurate at the time of submission.

Assessment Process

Eligible applications will be competitively assessed against the following criteria:

Criterion 1 – Cost and Value for Money

Assessment will consider:

- proposed funding per sterilisation.
- total sterilisation volumes.
- any proposed pet-owner contribution.
- proportion of funding directed to sterilisation services.
- reasonableness of administration and delivery costs.

Criterion 2 – Delivery Reach and Volume

Assessment will consider:

- the number of cats and/or dogs proposed for sterilisation.
- geographic coverage.
- metropolitan, regional and remote service delivery.
- capacity to deliver services within the funding period.
- veterinary arrangements supporting delivery.

LGIRS may seek clarification or supporting information during assessment.

Applications will be reviewed by an assessment panel, with recommendations submitted to the Minister for Local Government for approval.

In developing recommendations, the panel may consider the overall mix of proposed services across applications, including cat and dog sterilisation volumes and geographic coverage.

Notification of Outcomes

Applicants will be notified in writing about the outcome of their application.

Successful applicants must not publicly announce funding until advised by LGIRS that outcomes may be made public.

Unsuccessful applicants may request feedback on their application.

Additional Information

LGIRS will work with successful applicants to develop a Financial Assistance Agreement (FAA) which is required to be signed by both parties and before the funding is released. The FAA will be based on details provided with the successful application and will stipulate reporting and acquittal requirements.

A final acquittal report will be required on completion of funded activities

The Program is intended to maximise the number of eligible cats and dogs sterilised across Western Australia while ensuring appropriate stewardship of public funds.

LGIRS may use information collected through reporting and acquittal processes to evaluate Program outcomes and inform future funding arrangements.

Conflict of interest

Applicants must declare any actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest that may influence, or be perceived to influence, the application or delivery of funded activities.

Any conflicts arising after application submission must be disclosed to LGIRS as soon as practicable.

Privacy and confidentiality

Information provided through the application and grant administration processes will be used for the administration of the Program.

Information may be disclosed where required by law or for the purposes of administering, assessing, monitoring and evaluating the Program.

Applicants should be aware that information held by LGIRS may be subject to the Freedom of Information Act 1992 (WA).

Further information

For further information about the Subsidised Pet Sterilisation Program contact:

Department of Local Government, Industry Regulation and Safety (LGIRS)
Email: **SPSP@lgirs.wa.gov.au**
Website:www.wa.gov.au/organisation/local-government/subsidised-pet-sterilisation-program