

Did You Know?

Adoption FAQs During COVID-19



To protect the health of our staff, volunteers and guests, if you are experiencing any symptoms or if you're in an "at risk" category as defined by the [CDC](#) and the [State of California](#), please stay home. Take care of yourself and we'll see you soon.

I see your adoptions are by appointment what does that mean? Can't I look at all of the animals?

Yes! We are open by appointment and you can view all of our available animals online. Adopting by-appointment helps homeless animals get adopted while keeping our staff and community safe during this critical time. Once you see an animal you are interested in, simply email or call us to schedule an appointment.

We are open for appointment seven days a week from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

North Campus in Santa Maria Adoption Appointments:
AdoptMe@sbhumanesociety.org

South Campus in Santa Barbara Adoption Appointments:
TakeMeHome@sbhumanesociety.org

What Can I Expect During My Appointment?

When you arrive, you will be greeted by a staff person who will escort you to our cat adoption or dog adoption areas for a meet-and-greet. We ask that no more than two family members enter the building at any time and all visitors are required to wear masks and observe physical distancing.

How long will it take to adopt?

Our adoptions are based on learning about what characteristics you are looking for in a pet and making the best match for you and our animals so we will do a lot of the discussion with you before you arrive. In-person visits generally take 30-45 minutes.

What if I have other pets in the home?

When we chat before you come to the shelter, we'll offer advice on introducing your new pet to your resident animals. If recommended, we may ask you to bring your other pets along for them to have a chance to meet.

What should I expect after the adoption?

In the first week of adoption, we will reach out, check in and see how your pet is adjusting. We have loads of resources to help make your adoption successful!

What if it doesn't work out?

Before you return an animal, we recommend you contact one of our certified Dog Trainers who can provide free advice and access to group or private training sessions:
Email DogTraining@SBHumaneSociety.org

If it turns out the animal you adopted isn't the right match for your family or pets, simply give us a call to schedule a time to return the animal. We have a 100% money-back guarantee and the adoption fee is refunded if the animal is returned within 30 days.

What are you doing with animals you suspect have been exposed to a human with COVID-19?

There has been no indication by the medical professionals that a canine or feline can transmit COVID-19 to a human. However, to review a full list of our COVID-19 protocols, please just ask!