FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE & SUPPORT FOR PET OWNERS

Resources for veterinary care, preventive services and everyday pet essentials.

THE ESSENTIALS

Caring for a pet can become financially challenging, whether you are facing an unexpected veterinary bill or having difficulty affording food and supplies. The organizations below offer financial assistance, reduced-cost services or resources that may help. Assistance is not guaranteed, and programs have different eligibility requirements and funding limits.

WHERE TO START

1. If your pet needs urgent medical attention, contact a veterinarian right away. Do not delay emergency care while waiting for a grant decision.
2. Ask whether treatment can be provided in stages or whether another veterinary provider may offer a more affordable option.
3. Identify the kind of help you need—medical treatment, routine care or food and supplies—and contact the appropriate programs below.
4. Ask about eligibility and timing before paying a bill. Some programs require advance approval and pay veterinary clinics directly.

RESOURCES FOR VETERINARY BILLS, PREVENTIVE CARE, PET FOOD & OTHER NEEDS

The organizations below provide assistance with veterinary expenses, low-cost preventive care, pet food and other essential needs. This is not a comprehensive list, and some programs may have geographic restrictions.

Best Friends Animal Society offers a directory of financial assistance programs and lower-cost pet care resources.

https://bestfriends.org/pet-care-resources/cant-afford-vet-bills-100-financial-assistance-programs-pet-owners

HELP WITH VETERINARY BILLS

These programs may help with illness, injury or medically necessary treatment. Many require a diagnosis, treatment estimate and proof of financial need.

- **Brown Dog Foundation:** https://www.browndogfoundation.org/. Financial assistance for eligible pets with treatable illnesses or injuries.

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- **RedRover Relief:** https://redrover.org/relief/. Grants for qualifying urgent veterinary situations; funding and criteria vary.
- **The Pet Fund:** https://www.thepetfund.com/for-pet-owners. Financial assistance for eligible non-emergency veterinary care.
- **Paws 4 A Cure:** https://www.paws4acure.org/. Financial support for eligible cats and dogs needing treatment for illness or injury.

SPAY/NEUTER & VACCINATION SUPPORT

SBACC provides spay/neuter vouchers as well as trap rentals for TNR efforts. Reduced-cost clinics and community programs may help with vaccinations, spay/neuter and basic wellness care. Check with other local city or county shelters for spay/neuter voucher availability.

- **Actors & Others for Animals:** https://www.actorsandothers.com/. Southern California nonprofit offering qualifying veterinary assistance and spay/neuter support.
- **Long Beach Community Cat Clinic:** https://lbccatclinic.org/. Affordable veterinary exams, preventive care and spay/neuter services for cats.
- **Spay 4 LA:** https://www.1888spay4la.org/. Mobile veterinary program with low-cost spay/neuter and other preventive care.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR PET OWNERS

Pet food pantries and community support programs may provide other necessities. These programs are often local, with changing inventory and service areas.

- **Animal Assistance League of Orange County:** https://www.aaloc.org/helpline/pet-food-aid/. Emergency pet food.
- **Orange County Animal Allies:** https://ocanimalallies.org/get-help/emergency-pet-food/. Emergency pet food.
- **RedRover Domestic Violence Relief:** https://redrover.org/relief-dv/. Resources and financial assistance to help survivors of domestic violence keep their pets safe while seeking safety.

BEFORE YOU APPLY

For veterinary grants, have your pet's diagnosis, veterinary contact information, treatment estimate and any requested income documentation ready. For food or supplies, check whether the program serves your ZIP code and what documentation is required.

UNDERSTANDING PAYMENT OPTIONS

Grants may reduce the amount you owe. Financing, such as CareCredit (https://www.carecredit.com/), is different: it must be repaid, and interest or fees may apply. Review all terms before applying.

SBACC shares these independent resources to help pet owners explore options. SBACC does not guarantee eligibility, funding or services, and inclusion does not imply endorsement. Verify current program details directly with each organization.

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