



Georgia Department of Agriculture

Capitol Square • Atlanta, Georgia 30334-4201 •

Gary W. Black
Commissioner

DATE: May 3, 2016

ACTION: Notice of Intent to Consider Amendments to Rule 40-13-14-.03 entitled “Dog and Cat Sterilization Grant Program”

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Pursuant to the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, O.C.G.A. §§ 4-15-1 and 50-13-4, notice is hereby given that the Georgia Department of Agriculture will be accepting written comments regarding the adoption of amendments to Rule 40-13-14-.03 entitled “Dog and Cat Sterilization Grant Program.” The Department will be accepting written comments from May 3, 2016, to close of business (4:30 p.m. EST) on June 3, 2016.

SYNOPSIS, MAIN FEATURES AND DIFFERENCES

The Department is proposing to amend Rule 40-13-14-.03(1) by allowing veterinary medical foundations with 501(c)(3) status to apply for a grant to assist with sterilization procedures on dogs and cats. The paragraph would also be amended to clarify that only entities located in Georgia may allow for such grants.

Rule 40-13-14-.03(2) would also be amended to clarify that completed applications must be timely received by the Department in order for an application to be eligible for the grant program.

The Department is also proposing to amend Rule 40-13-14-.03(4) by separating the paragraph into three separate sentences.

Rule 40-13-14-.03(5) would be amended by replacing it in its entirety and clarifying that all procedures shall be completed within 12 months of receipt of Grant funds. The rules following 40-13-14.03(5) are renumbered accordingly.

The Department is also proposing to amend Rule 40-13-14-.03(6) by replacing the term “follow up report” with “Final Progress Report,” and the term “must” with “shall.” The rule will also add that the final progress report is due within 30 days of the last procedure, and failure to send the final progress report in a timely manner will result in ineligibility for future Grant Funds.

Rule 40-13-14-.03(7) would be amended by replacing the term “may” with “shall.”

Rule 40-13-14-.03(8) would be amended by clarifying that the veterinarians performing sterilization procedures using grant funds must be licensed by the Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine, accredited in the USDA National Accreditation Program, and approved by the State Veterinarian office to perform duties in Georgia.

The Department is also proposing to amend Rule 40-13-14-.03(9) by inserting the word “sterilization” between “surgical procedures.”

Rule 40-13-14-.03(10) would be replaced in its entirety with language clarifying that program funds shall not be used to assist with sterilization procedures on dogs and/or cats residing outside of Georgia or for trap, neuter and release programs.

Finally, Rule 40-13-14-.03(11) would change the date that grant applications are due from 30 days to when the Department designates, and add that the Department will make announcements and application directions available one week prior to the commencement of the Grant application period.

COMMENT PERIOD AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Department will be accepting written comments from May 3, 2016, to close of business (4:30 p.m. EST) on June 3, 2016. Comments will be considered on June 6, 2016. Please submit written comments to:

Dr. Robert M. Cobb, DVM
Division Director, Animal Industry Division
Georgia Department of Agriculture
19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
Telephone Number: 404-656-3667

Interested persons may call or submit a written request to obtain a copy of the proposed rules. A copy of the synopsis and the proposed rules may be downloaded from the Georgia Department of Agriculture website at www.agr.georgia.gov.

This notice is given in compliance with the Georgia Administrative Procedure Act, O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4.