

OVERVIEW FOR SELLERS OF DOGS AND CATS



Dog and Cat Management Act 1995
Dog and Cat Management Regulations 2017

New SA Laws begin 1 July 2018

Microchipping and desexing

From 1 July 2018 new laws in South Australia will require all dogs and cats to be microchipped by 12 weeks of age or upon sale, whichever is the sooner. Dogs and cats born after 1 July 2018 must be desexed by 6 months of age (subject to limited exemptions).

Only vets and qualified microchip implanters will be able to implant microchips after 1 July 2018.

Breeder Registration

A person who is selling a dog or cat he or she has bred, must register as a breeder prior to selling, regardless if the litter was planned or not. A person will be taken to have bred a dog or a cat in any of the following circumstances:

- Provides semen or ova used to breed the dog or cat
- Provides any assistance (however described) in the course of breeding the dog or cat
- Provides facilities used in the course of breeding the dog or cat
- Fails to take reasonable steps to prevent the impregnation of another dog or cat
- Fails to take reasonable steps to prevent the impregnation of their dog or cat

If you are a 'breeder' by definition, and intend to sell a dog or a cat after 1 July 2018, you must register as a breeder with the Dog and Cat Management Board. Any advertisement you place for the sale of a dog or a cat must include your contact details and breeder registration number.

It will be an offence to sell dogs or cats you have bred without being registered as a breeder from 1 July 2018.

Selling dogs and cats

New requirements set out what information must be included in advertisements for the sale of dogs and cats and what information must be given to buyers at the point of sale.

It will be an offence to advertise dogs or cats you have bred for sale without including your contact details as the seller and the contact details for each breeder and breeder registration number in the advertisement.

Please refer to the overview table provided.

If you are breeding and/or selling dogs or cats you are required to comply with the South Australian Standards and Guidelines for the Breeding and Trading Companion Animals which sets out welfare standards and guidelines for dogs and cats.

Dogs and Cats Online

From 1 July 2018 a new statewide online database known as Dogs and Cats Online will be introduced. Microchip details of dogs and cats and their owners, or the person responsible for the animal, must be entered into Dogs and Cats Online.

There are new obligations placed upon vets and qualified implanters to put the microchip number and details of the owner/person having care and control of the dog or cat into Dogs and Cats Online.

For full details of the new laws, visit dogandcatboard.com.au.

Overview for Veterinarians on the Legislative Changes

Section of the Act/ Regulations	New Legal Responsibility or Power	In practice
Section 42A of the Act and Regulation 10	All dogs and cats to be microchipped by 12 weeks of age or upon sale (<i>unless exemption granted by a vet</i>).	Only vets or qualified implanters can implant microchips after 1 July 2018. Vets and microchip implanters have an obligation to enter dog and cat microchip details, and the owner's details into Dogs and Cats Online. NB there is an obligation to enter cat microchip details into Dogs and Cats Online even if there is no requirement to register the cat with Council. All councils will now have a record of microchipped cats in their area. A vet can grant an exemption if he/she is satisfied that to microchip a dog or cat would pose an undue risk to the health of the dog or cat, or adversely affect the growth, development or wellbeing of the dog or cat. Exemptions must be noted in Dogs and Cats Online against the animal's entry.
Section 42D of the Act and Regulation 12	All dogs and cats born after 1 July 2018 to be desexed by 6 months of age or within 28 days of an owner taking possession (<i>unless exemption granted by a vet</i>).	Only a vet can carry out a desexing procedure. Exemptions from desexing apply to registered breeders, working livestock dogs and registered racing greyhounds. A vet can grant an exemption from desexing if the vet is satisfied that to desex the dog or cat would pose an undue risk to the health of the dog or cat, or adversely affect the growth, development or wellbeing of the dog or cat. Exemptions granted by a vet must be noted in Dogs and Cats Online against the animal's entry.
Sections 68 and 69 Regulation 17	Breeders required to be registered with the Dog and Cat Management Board if selling a dog or cat they have bred.	Breeders who sell dogs or cats they have bred need to be registered as a breeder. The cost for most breeders is \$75 per year. Members of specified breeder associations will process their own members at a discounted fee of \$50. The registration process is completed in Dogs and Cats Online under their owner log in. Breeders are required to comply with the South Australian Standards and Guidelines for the Breeding and Trading Companion Animals which sets out welfare standards and guidelines for dogs and cats. Find more information about how to register as a breeder by going to dogandcatboard.com.au .
Section 70 and Regulation 18	It is an offence to sell a dog or cat unless it has been microchipped or desexed in accordance with the regulations.	A dog or a cat must be microchipped before it is sold. If it is has not been sold, dogs and cats older than 12 weeks of age must be microchipped, or microchipped within 28 days of taking possession, or before an extension has expired. A dog or cat must be desexed by 6 months of age, or within 28 days of taking possession, or before an extension has expired. Desexing only applies to dogs and cat born after 1 July 2018 (as gazetted by the Board). Sale or sell is defined in the Act and it includes possessing a dog or cat for the purpose of sale, auction, barter or exchange. Sellers of dogs or cats are also required to comply with the South Australian Standards and Guidelines for the Breeding and Trading Companion Animals which sets out welfare standards and guidelines for dogs and cats.
Section 71 and Regulation 19	Advertisements must include required information. Buyers must also be given prescribed information at the point of sale.	Advertisements for the sale of dog or cats must include the name and telephone number of the seller and the name and telephone number of each breeder and their breeder registration number. Upon the sale of any dog or cat the buyer must be provided with a statement setting out: name/address of the seller; name/ address of each breeder and the breeder registration number (if known)/ details of the date and who carried out microchipping and/or desexing procedures; details of any exemptions granted and details of any medical conditions known.

For more information, please visit dogandcatboard.com.au/breeders