

Guidelines for Spay/Neuter Changes 2015

Counties Contracting Directly with a Veterinarian

- Provide the opportunity to participate to all “local veterinarians”.
 - o “Local veterinarian” is defined as a veterinarian licensed by the NC Veterinary Medical Board under Article 11 of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes and practicing within the county where the services are provided. If no licensed veterinarian practices within that county, then a local veterinarian is a licensed veterinarian practicing in a county adjacent to the county where the services are provided. For the purposes of this definition “practicing” means engaging in the practice of veterinary medicine, as defined in Article 11 of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes.
 - o If you are contracting with a veterinarian, you may use any veterinarian regardless of whether or not that veterinarian is within your county, provided you make the opportunity to participate available to all “local veterinarians”.
 - o Examples of ways to provide this opportunity include, but are not limited to emailing all the veterinarians within your county, calling all veterinarians within a county, physically going to each veterinarian in your county.
- Submit proof that you have made the opportunity to participate in your program available to all “local veterinarians”.
 - o This documentation must be submitted every year with the first reimbursement request of the calendar year.
 - o This means that you must submit this documentation for your next reimbursement request and then again for the first reimbursement request of 2016.
 - o Proof that you have given all local veterinarians an opportunity to participate may include but is not limited to copies of emails sent to all “local veterinarians” inviting them to participate, having each veterinarian you visit in person sign and date a document that they were asked to participate, a signed statement that you called each veterinarian to offer participation accompanied by a list of all the veterinarians that you called and the dates of each call.
- Re-write your rules/guidelines regarding what documentation a low-income person must provide to prove he/she is low-income.
 - o “Low-income” is now defined as an annual household income lower than 100% of the federal poverty level.
 - o Proof of participation in a government assistance program is no longer an acceptable form of documentation for a low-income person unless that program requires a yearly household income level less than 100% of the federal poverty limit. Please provide documentation that such a government assistance program requires this income level with your rule if you choose to use this type of documentation.
 - o Examples of documentation include, but are not limited to W-2s, pay stubs, unemployment paperwork, etc.

Counties Administering a Spay/Neuter Program Through the Use of Vouchers

- This is acceptable provided the cost of the spay or neuter procedure is fixed by the participating veterinarian(s). Administrative costs are not reimbursable.
- Provide the opportunity to participate to all “local veterinarians”.
 - o “Local veterinarian” is defined as a veterinarian licensed by the NC Veterinary Medical Board under Article 11 of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes and practicing within the county where the services are provided. If no licensed veterinarian practices within that county, then a local veterinarian is a licensed veterinarian practicing in a county adjacent to the county where the services are provided. For the purposes of this definition “practicing” means engaging in the practice of veterinary medicine, as defined in Article 11 of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes.
 - o If you using a voucher system, you may use any veterinarian regardless of whether or not that veterinarian is within your county, provided you make the opportunity to participate available to all “local veterinarians”.
 - o Examples of ways to provide this opportunity include, but are not limited to emailing all the veterinarians within your county, calling all veterinarians within a county, physically going to each veterinarian in your county.
- Submit proof that you have made the opportunity to participate in your program available to all “local veterinarians”.
 - o This documentation must be submitted every year with the first reimbursement request of the calendar year.
 - o This means that you must submit this documentation for your next reimbursement request and then again for the first reimbursement request of 2016.
 - o Proof that you have given all local veterinarians an opportunity to participate may include but is not limited to copies of emails sent to all “local veterinarians” inviting them to participate, having each veterinarian you visit in person sign and date a document that they were asked to participate, a signed statement that you called each veterinarian to offer participation accompanied by a list of all the veterinarians that you called and the dates of each call.
- Re-write your rules/guidelines regarding what documentation a low-income person must provide to prove he/she is low-income.
 - o “Low-income” is now defined as an annual household income lower than 100% of the federal poverty level.
 - o Proof of participation in a government assistance program is no longer an acceptable form of documentation for a low-income person unless that program requires a yearly household income level less than 100% of the federal poverty limit. Please provide documentation that such a government assistance program requires this income level with your rule if you choose to use this type of documentation.
 - o Examples of documentation include, but are not limited to W-2s, pay stubs, unemployment paperwork, etc.

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Counties Providing Discounted Spay/Neuter Procedures via Some Other Method/Procedure

- This is acceptable provided the cost of the spay or neuter procedure is fixed by the participating veterinarian. Administrative costs are not reimbursable.
- Provide the opportunity to participate to all “local veterinarians”.
 - o “Local veterinarian” is defined as a veterinarian licensed by the NC Veterinary Medical Board under Article 11 of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes and practicing within the county where the services are provided. If no licensed veterinarian practices within that county, then a local veterinarian is a licensed veterinarian practicing in a county adjacent to the county where the services are provided. For the purposes of this definition “practicing” means engaging in the practice of veterinary medicine, as defined in Article 11 of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes.
 - o If you are using some other method of providing discounted spay/neuter procedures, you may use any veterinarian regardless of whether or not that veterinarian is within your county, provided you make the opportunity to participate available to all “local veterinarians”.
 - o Examples of ways to provide this opportunity include, but are not limited to emailing all the veterinarians within your county, calling all veterinarians within a county, physically going to each veterinarian in your county.
- Submit proof that you have made the opportunity to participate in your program available to all “local veterinarians”.
 - o This documentation must be submitted every year with the first reimbursement request of the calendar year.
 - o This means that you must submit this documentation for your next reimbursement request and then again for the first reimbursement request of 2016.
 - o Proof that you have given all local veterinarians an opportunity to participate may include but is not limited to copies of emails sent to all “local veterinarians” inviting them to participate, having each veterinarian you visit in person sign and date a document that they were asked to participate, a signed statement that you called each veterinarian to offer participation accompanied by a list of all the veterinarians that you called and the dates of each call.
- Re-write your rules/guidelines regarding what documentation a low-income person must provide to prove he/she is low-income.
 - o “Low-income” is now defined as an annual household income lower than 100% of the federal poverty level.
 - o Proof of participation in a government assistance program is no longer an acceptable form of documentation for a low-income person unless that program requires a yearly household income level less than 100% of the federal poverty limit. Please provide documentation that such a government assistance program requires this income level with your rule if you choose to use this type of documentation.
 - o Examples of documentation include, but are not limited to W-2s, pay stubs, unemployment paperwork, etc.

Guidelines for Spay/Neuter Changes 2015

Animal Shelters Operating on Contract with a County or Municipality Providing Spay/Neuter Procedures to Animals Adopted by Low-income Individuals

- Provide the opportunity to participate to all “local veterinarians”.
 - o “Local veterinarian” is defined as a veterinarian licensed by the NC Veterinary Medical Board under Article 11 of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes and practicing within the county where the services are provided. If no licensed veterinarian practices within that county, then a local veterinarian is a licensed veterinarian practicing in a county adjacent to the county where the services are provided. For the purposes of this definition “practicing” means engaging in the practice of veterinary medicine, as defined in Article 11 of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes.
 - o If you are providing spay/neuter procedures to low-income people who adopt an animal, you may use any veterinarian regardless of whether or not that veterinarian is within your county, provided that you make the opportunity to participate available to all veterinarians in your county.
 - o Examples of ways to provide this opportunity include, but are not limited to emailing all the veterinarians within your county, calling all veterinarians within a county, physically going to each veterinarian in your county.
- Submit proof that you have made the opportunity to participate in your program available to all “local veterinarians”.
 - o This documentation must be submitted every year with the first reimbursement request of the calendar year.
 - o This means that you must submit this documentation for your next reimbursement request and then again for the first reimbursement request of 2016.
 - o Proof that you have given all local veterinarians an opportunity to participate may include but is not limited to copies of emails sent to all “local veterinarians” inviting them to participate, having each veterinarian you visit in person sign and date a document that they were asked to participate, a signed statement that you called each veterinarian to offer participation accompanied by a list of all the veterinarians that you called and the dates of each call.
- Re-write your rules/guidelines regarding what documentation a low-income person must provide to prove he/she is low-income.
 - o “Low-income” is now defined as an annual household income lower than 100% of the federal poverty level.
 - o Proof of participation in a government assistance program is no longer an acceptable form of documentation for a low-income person unless that program requires a yearly household income level less than 100% of the federal poverty limit. Please provide documentation that such a government assistance program requires this income level with your rule if you choose to use this type of documentation.
 - o Examples of documentation include, but are not limited to W-2s, pay stubs, unemployment paperwork, etc.