

The Society of V.I. FERT Foster/Adoption Application

You must be over 18 years of age to Foster or Adopt without parental consent

The Process

The processes to foster or adopt are similar. There is also the option of Fostering to Adopt - where the ferrets are placed in the home as fosters so that first time ferret owners can test out living with ferrets, prior to the commitment of adoption. To ensure the best ferret care possible, all potential foster parents and adopters must go through the application process, detailed below:

- 1. Written Application Form.** Once we receive the completed Foster/Adoption application form, our directors will review the application form and arrange for an interview time. Directors will note any initial questions, issues or items requiring clarification.
- 2. Interview.** Step two is an interview with one of our directors (usually via telephone). We may discuss any concerns you have, as well as your expectations regarding ferret ownership and assess your ferret knowledge base/experience. At this time, we also gather information to assist in helping find a suitable ferret match. After a successful interview, your references (provided in the written application) will be contacted.
- 3. Home Visit.** Step three is a home visit to ensure that the family is fully prepared for their new furry arrival. During the visit we will look for any ferret hazards, provide advice on ferret proofing and answer any questions you may have. For people adopting from areas where we cannot do an in-home visit, a video inspection and chat can be arranged.

*** This process can take up to two weeks, depending on your location, the availability of directors as well as our ability to contact your references. We appreciate your patience. The adoption or fostering process may be terminated at any time if the directors feel that they have been misled by the party wishing to adopt/foster or if the directors feel that a ferret's needs will not be adequately met. ***

Filling out an application does not guarantee an adoption or foster ferret placement.

It is possible for homes to be approved only to have any available ferrets not be suitable for the home; in these situations, the adopter or foster parent may request being notified of future ferrets that might be a better match. This process is not meant to insult or discriminate, but rather to ensure that the animals in our care find homes that match their needs as well as possible.

Health Check:

All ferrets are checked by a veterinarian within 2 weeks of intake.

*A clean bill of health from the veterinarian simply means that the animal did not display any sign of illness at the time of the visit, and no health concerns were raised by the subsequent foster family (if applicable). It is not a guarantee that health conditions such as lymphoma, insulinoma or adrenal disease will not develop in the future.

Foster Information: Foster families are responsible for purchasing and supplying food, bedding, dishes, toys, litter boxes and litter for their ferrets. (Sometimes these items will come with ferrets). Cages will be provided as needed for a small rental fee. If a veterinarian visit is required, the foster parent is responsible for booking and taking the ferret(s) in. The Society of V.I. FERT will subsidize or fully cover costs of foster ferret veterinarian visits as required and as funds are available.

Adoptive families are responsible for all pet related costs once adoption is final.

Foster-to-Adopt families will be treated as foster families unless otherwise stipulated and agreed upon at the outset.

Are you interested in: ADOPTION FOSTERING FOSTERING-to-ADOPT

PART 1: Personal Information:

Applicant name: _____

Are you over 18 years of age? Yes No

E-mail address: _____

Phone number(s): _____

Home address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Do you: Rent Own Live with parents Other-pls explain _____

If renting, please provide your landlord's contact information:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

E-mail address: _____ Does your landlord allow pets? Yes No

Are you employed: Yes No

If yes, where? _____ For how long? _____

If no, how do you intend to care for your ferret's needs: food, toys, dishes, litter, veterinary care*, bedding. (Medical care can add up quickly and bills of \$1,000 are common). *Adoptions only.

Please provide 2 references who can vouch for your ability to care for any ferrets you take in:

Name 1: _____ Phone: _____

Name 2: _____ Phone: _____

PART 2: Household:

Who else lives with you? i.e. children(give ages), spouse, roommates etc. _____

Is everyone in your household aware of your plans to add a pet ferret to your home? ___ Yes ___ No

Does anyone in your home suffer from animal related allergies? Please explain. _____

Did you know that recliners are a leading cause of ferret injury and death in homes? Do you have a recliner in your home? ___ Yes ___ No

If yes, are you willing/able to provide a safe play area for the ferret away from the chair? ___ Yes ___ No

PART 3: Pets in the Home:

Do you currently have any pets in your home? ___ Yes ___ No (If no, skip to Part 4)

If yes, please describe them; i.e. species, age, temperament, spayed/neutered. _____

How do your pets get along with other and/or new animals? _____

Have your current pets ever been exposed to ferrets before? ___ Yes ___ No

Are your current pets up to date on vaccinations? ___ Yes ___ No

If yes, what have they been vaccinated for? _____

Ferrets are prone to ear mites. Have your pets been treated with Revolution or another ear mite medication in the past month? ___ Yes ___ No

Have you taken any of your pets to the veterinarian in the past 5 years? ___ Yes ___ No

If yes, for what reason(s)? _____

PART 4: History of Pet Experience

What pets have you owned or cared for in the past 5 years (not including your current pets listed above (If none, skip to Part 5)?)

Have you ever sold, rehomed or surrendered an animal? ___ Yes ___ No

If yes, please describe the circumstances: _____

Have you ever had to euthanize an animal? ___ Yes ___ No

If yes, please describe the circumstances: _____

Have you ever cared for an injured or ill animal or given an animal medications? ___ Yes ___ No

If yes, please describe the circumstances: _____

PART 5: Ferret Experience

Have you ever owned or cared for a ferret? ___ Yes ___ No (if no skip to Part 6)

When did you own or care for ferrets (approximate year(s))? _____

Please describe them; i.e. age, gender, temperament. _____

Where were the ferrets kept? Cage Ferret Room Outdoors Free Roam

Other-pls explain: _____

If caged, how often and for how long were the ferrets let out? _____

What type(s) of food did you feed the ferrets (please include brand name if possible)? _____

Is there anything else you would like us to know about your experience with ferrets? _____

PART 6: Ferret Knowledge

Have you read Ferrets for Dummies by Kim Shilling? Yes No

Have you read any other books about ferrets and ferret ownership? Yes No

If yes, which ones? _____

Have you visited any websites about ferrets? Yes No

If yes, which ones? _____

Are you a member of any Facebook Ferret Groups? Yes No

If yes, which ones? _____

How old do you think ferrets live to be? _____

What do you believe to be the best food to feed a ferret? _____

Are you familiar with the signs and symptoms of insulinoma? Yes No Never heard of it

Are you familiar with the signs and symptoms of adrenal disease? Yes No Never heard of it

Fostering & Adopting:

Please keep in mind that we NEVER separate bonded ferrets.

Are you interested in (a) Male Female Multiples No Preference

Do you have an age preference? _____

Are you willing to take in special needs ferrets? Yes No

If yes, are you willing to: Give Oral Medication Feed Raw Hand Feed Syringe Feed

Are you interested in a particular ferret, pair or group(business) in our care? Yes No

If yes, which one(s)? _____

Where will you keep the ferret(s)? Be specific. _____

Who will be primarily responsible for the care and costs of maintaining the ferret(s)? _____

How many hours a day will the ferrets be left alone? _____

Will you agree to a scheduled home visit prior to having a ferret or group(business) of ferrets placed in your care?

Yes No

Will you agree to a scheduled home visit after the ferret or group(business) of ferrets are placed in

your care? Yes No

I agree (please initial to indicate agreement):

_____ that the Society of V.I. FERT is not responsible for illness, injury or damage to property, persons or other animals as a result of fostering or adoption.

_____ to ensure specific behavioural and/or medical plans are followed.

_____ to buy and feed high quality kibble to the ferret(s) that I foster or adopt and/or feed raw as instructed.

___ to not use clumping cat litter box material for the ferret(s).

___ to keep the litterbox box clean.

___ to keep the cage clean.

___ to let the ferret(s) out with supervision for at least 2-4 hours twice a day.

___ to keep fresh water in the bowl at all times.

___ to contact the Society of V.I. FERT if I have a question or if a problem arises.

___ not to feed treats that have sugar, nuts, seeds, and/or fibre to the ferret(s).

___ not to strike the ferret(s) and not allow anyone else to either. I will only scruff or give a time out to the ferret(s) in response to misbehaviour.

___ TO LOVE AND GIVE QUALITY CARE TO THE FERRET(S). ♥

The following are for Fostering or Foster-to-adopt applications only:

___ to notify the Society of V.I. FERT immediately upon discovery of any injury or illness not previously identified at intake.

___ to notify the Society of V.I. FERT immediately if the fostered animal has deceased, and to return the body as soon as possible.

___ to have all personal information up to date with the Society of V.I. FERT i.e.: address, email and phone number for fostering.

___ not to place any fostered animals in someone else's care without approval of the Society of V.I. FERT in which case, a new foster contract must be signed, and care instructions provided.

___ that a representative of the Society of V.I. FERT may make visits to the foster residence to ensure care plans are being followed.

___ to follow all verbal & written instructions given by the Society of V.I. FERT to improve a foster animal's physical and emotional wellbeing as well as behaviour.

___ to bring the ferret(s) that are up for adoption to an agreed upon location or to have people into my home to show a prospective ferret adopter.

___ to relinquish the ferret(s) immediately when adoption is to take place.

___ to return any cage, accessories or other items pertaining to the Society of V.I. FERT ferret(s) when I can no longer be a foster parent (if applicable).

Any other issues or questions: _____
