



# Greyhound Pets of America Greater Northwest

www.gnwgreyhounds.org

877.247.4884

## FOSTER APPLICATION, GUIDELINES & CONTRACT

We are pleased that you have decided to foster a Greyhound! What you do will help the transition from racing track dog to home companion. It has been our experience that Greyhounds are gentle, sweet, sensitive, loving, affectionate, playful and intelligent. Greyhounds are very "greyful" for being given a second chance at life, thanks to volunteers like you!

The information provided will assist us in matching a foster greyhound for your home and your lifestyle.

### Please Print Legibly!

<b>Applicant Name (1):</b>	Applicant (1) Over the Age of 18? Yes / No	Applicant (1) Cell Phone:
Applicant (1) Email:	Applicant (1) Employer/Occupation:	
<b>Applicant Name (2)</b>	Applicant (2) Over the Age of 18? Yes / No	Applicant (2) Cell Phone:
Applicant (2) Email:	Applicant (2) Employer/Occupation:	

Applicant(s) COMPLETE Physical Address:	City, State, ZIP
Applicant(s) COMPLETE Mailing Address:	City, State, ZIP

How did you hear about us? \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the pets currently living in your home (breed, age, sex, personality): \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you want to foster a Greyhound? \_\_\_\_\_

What age, sex, personality trait(s) would you like in a Greyhound? \_\_\_\_\_

How long would the Greyhound be alone each day? \_\_\_\_\_ Number of adults in the home: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of children and ages in the home: \_\_\_\_\_

**What is the purpose of fostering for GPAGNW?** Being a foster home is the most important link in our adoption process. Without our foster homes, all the loving, adoptable greyhounds from the tracks don't stand a chance of finding a new family. Your goal is to provide a loving, structured, responsible, safe, and educational environment for the greyhound during this critical transition phase.

**How long will the foster greyhound be with me?** On average, greyhounds remain in a foster home for between two to six weeks. The exact timing depends on the greyhound, you and the number of qualified families that apply to adopt from GPAGNW.

- **The Greyhound:** You will have the best opportunity of any of us to observe the details of the greyhound's behavior, preferences, personality traits, areas that need work, and overall adoptability. Providing us with this input will help us rapidly identify which adoption applicants are best suited to adopt your foster greyhound.
- **You:** The last thing we want to do is "burn you out" as a foster home. Let us know when you are having doubts or experiencing difficulties. If we can't help you resolve the issue, we will coordinate for another foster home.
- **Qualified Families:** During the time you are fostering a greyhound, GPAGNW is screening numerous adoption applications, looking for just the right family to match to each greyhound. Sometimes the perfect family comes along right away, other times we need to wait for just the right one.

### **What are my responsibilities?**

1. **Provide a secure environment:** This involves everything from strong fencing to adequate physical separation from other dogs, pets and children at ANY time the dog is not under your direct supervision. Muzzles are **required** for households with other pets and children. When not in your home or a completely fenced in yard, the foster dog must be on a leash AT ALL TIMES. At night, the foster dog must be provided a safe and separate place to sleep. GPAGNW is not responsible for any damages by the foster dog while it is in your care.
2. **Provide daily care:** Just like owning a pet, this includes regular feedings, exercise, waste clean-up, positive and loving interactions. And, being on the lookout for any emerging medical or behavioral issues.
3. **Provide a good balance of love and discipline:** Most dogs are returned because they were lacking in adequate attention or training/discipline in their early months. As a foster home, you have the chance to teach the greyhound proper in-home manners and just what love is all about – and, even tricks are encouraged! This is in the form of grooming, play and petting – as well as fair, consistent training and discipline. Greyhounds want desperately to please its owner – you will likely be the first person to teach the greyhound that good manners and proper social behavior are the requirements for a loving, positive relationship and ultimately a successful adoption.
4. **Avoid off-leash parks:** Although many dogs are completely happy and well-adjusted at dog parks, we require that you do NOT take the foster dog to any off-leash park under any circumstances. During this critical time when the dog is making so many adjustments (from its original home or life at the tracks), it is best that we do not introduce the dog to another new situation that has potential for problems.
5. **Obtain pre-approval for ANY medical expense:** We ask that you always contact us for permission before taking your foster dog to the vet. As a 501 (3) C, we may be able to offer a less expensive solution. For example; we may have medical supplies and medicines on hand, or have arrangements with preferred veterinarians that provide discounted services.

If there is a life-threatening emergency, we still ask that you do everything you can to notify one of the GPAGNW board members – while in route to the emergency clinic if at all possible.

6. **Allow prospective adopters access to the foster dog:** When we have found what we believe might be an appropriate individual or family to adopt your foster dog, we will notify you to arrange for the adopter(s) to meet the greyhound. This can be done by having the adopter come to your home, or you can arrange to meet the adopter at another location such as a park, or even a pet store. We will do everything possible to ensure that these meetings are convenient for you.

You do NOT have the right to decide who will adopt your foster dog – that responsibility rests with GPAGNW. However, we will rely on your input to help us match the best possible family with your foster dog.

We will also ask that you bring your foster dog to “Meet and Greets” so that the public can meet adoptable greyhounds.

7. **Provide feedback:** We want to know how the greyhound is doing! This doesn’t mean you must call or email GPAGNW daily, but communicating that all is well after the first few days or week is recommended. If you have questions or observe anything confusing, never hesitate to contact us immediately!

Likewise, if we send a prospective adopter to meet your foster greyhound, your role is to provide truthful and complete information to the potential adopter. And provide your observations about the potential adopter and their interactions with the foster greyhound back to GPAGNW.

Last, but not least, we want to know how YOU are doing! We can’t stress enough how important you are to our adoption efforts and success. Let us know what we can do to make your foster experience the most positive that it can be!

**What GPAGNW will provide:**

- Leash, collar and muzzle
- Medical expenses for pre-existing conditions (spay/neuter, shots, skin treatments, and pre-existing injuries)
- Ready advice via phone and/or email
- Crate – If you do not own a crate, GPAGNW will make arrangements for a loaner
- Food

**What GPAGNW will not cover:**

- Damage caused by the greyhound to your property, pets, family members or neighbors’ property, pets or family members.
- Vet visits or any medical expenses that you determine necessary without obtaining prior approval from a GPAGNW board member.
- Reimbursement for extraneous items such as toenail clipping, baths, dog sprays, treats, toys and other optional items not directly related to the greyhound’s intrinsic health needs.

GPAGNW Greyhounds rely on GPAGNW to place them into appropriate, loving, responsible homes which means that your loving care will help them transition into family companions.

Before signing this agreement, please understand the serious commitment you are making. By signing below, you agree that you prepared to treat the Greyhound as one of your family. And, you will surrender the Greyhound to the family formally approved for adoption by GPAGNW.

Applicant (1) Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant (2) Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If approved, would you like to be invited to our chat Group? Yes / No

APPLICANT IS APPROVED / NOT APPROVED AS A GPAGNW FOSTER:

GPAGNW Adoption Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_