



City of Los Angeles Kennel Permit Standards

It is the intent of LA Animal Services to enforce the standards of care for animals in Kennel Facilities in order to ensure the humane treatment of animals and safeguard the public interest. The provisions of Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 53.50 and these Standards do NOT apply to an animal kennel operated by a veterinarian in or upon the same hospital facility, establishment or premise which is operated as a veterinary hospital and is in possession of a valid premises permit issued pursuant to Business and Professions Code Section 4853 (41 Ops. Ca. Atty. Gen. 125). Following are the standards of care:

Std #	Standard and Requirement for Proof ITEM # WILL BE CIRCLED IF IT IS NOT IN COMPLIANCE
1	Prominently display a copy of LA Animal Services' official permit to operate a kennel, a copy of these standards, and a copy of a valid business license in a location easily accessible and visible to customers.
2	All dogs not permanently kenneled must have a current dog license. Maintain a copy of each dog's license for all dogs kenneled for customers at the kennel.
3	All dogs must have current rabies vaccinations. Maintain a copy of each dog's current rabies vaccination certificate at the kennel.
4	All unaltered dogs and cats must be in compliance with the City's spay/neuter ordinance (LAMC 58.15.2). If they are unaltered, they must meet the qualifications for an exemption specified in Sec. 58.15.2 or have a breeder's permit. Maintain a copy of each dog and cat breeder's permit or proof of exemption at the kennel.
5	All altered dogs and cats must have a sterility certificate signed by a veterinarian. Maintain a copy of each dog and cat sterility certificate at the kennel.
6	Maintain copies of all medical records for any pet that has ongoing medical issues or is under medical treatment.
7	Restrict the entry of pests from outside and implement pest control measures to effectively control infestation of vermin, insects, or other pests.
8	Report any animal escapes to LA Animal Services and make reasonable efforts to capture escaped animals.
9	Provide natural or artificial light, in a manner that permits routine inspection and cleaning, and the proper care and maintenance of the animals.
10	Maintain the entire facility in good repair and in clean and sanitary condition.
11	Separate grooming work areas from the kennel's primary animal enclosures and animal food storage areas. Use a separate room or provide a wall to separate areas.

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12	Clean grooming work areas at least once daily and maintain such areas in good condition.
13	Provide structurally sound and well maintained cages/kennels to protect animals from injury, to keep other animals out, to provide shelter from rain, hot weather, and cold weather, provide shade from sun exposure, provide sufficient heat and air conditioning appropriate for the breed and size of the animals kenneled indoors, all of which supports and promote the health and well-being of the animals. Portable kennels/carriers can only be used for transporting a dog; they cannot be used as a kennel.
14	Ensure kennels/cages are constructed so they can be routinely maintained to allow animals to stay clean, i.e., are impervious to moisture and can be sanitized (wood may not be used).
15	Ensure all cages/kennels provide adequate space for the animal or animals housed in the cage/kennel. "Adequate space" means sufficient height and sufficient floor space for the animals to stand up, sit down and turn about freely using normal body movements without the head touching the top of the cage/kennel; lie down with limbs outstretched and exercise normal postural movement, and move about freely as appropriate for the species, age, size, and condition of the animal, and when appropriate, to experience socialization with other animals, if any, in the cage/kennel. However, when freedom of movement would endanger the animal, temporarily and appropriately restricting movement of the animal in a humane manner is permitted.
16	Ensure cages for cats provide an elevated platform as appropriate for the size of the cat.
17	House only compatible animals in the same enclosure.
18	Separate kenneled animals by sex, breed, and size to avoid any possibility of fighting or injury to the animals. It is strongly encouraged to kennel each animal separately. Kenneled animals may not "free roam". (Dogs may be together during exercise periods or training periods.) When moved outside the kennel, dogs must be under direct control of a competent person and on a leash (LAMC 53.06.2).
19	No animal may be tethered as a means of kenneling (Health and Safety Code 122335).
20	House intact animals that have reached sexual maturity in a separate kennel unless breeding is planned and a current breeding permit has been obtained. House all other intact animals in a manner to prevent unplanned reproduction
21	Provide at least twice daily food, water, care and maintenance of the animals regardless of whether the kennel is open to the public.
22	Remove animal and food wastes, used bedding, debris, and any other organic wastes from primary enclosures at least twice daily to prevent contamination of the animals and to reduce disease hazards and odors.
23	A waste disposal plan, as approved by the Department, is required for the facility.

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	<p>The plan shall provide for regular and frequent collection, removal, and disposal of excreta and food wastes, soiled bedding, debris, garbage, water, other fluids and wastes in a manner that minimizes environmental contamination and disease risks. Stock piling of waste is strictly prohibited on the premises.</p>
24	<p>All food must be maintained in such a manner as to prevent access from pests or rodents. Food storage containers must have fitted lids, be water tight and closed at all times, except when preparing food for distribution. Food must not be spoiled or beyond the expiration date stated by the manufacturer.</p>
25	<p>All food and water bowls must be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition. Clean and sanitize all food and water bowls at least once per day.</p>
26	<p>Observe each animal at regular intervals, at least three times a day, to recognize and evaluate general symptoms of sickness, injury, or abnormal behavior. Provide veterinary treatment for each diseased, ill, or injured animal immediately. Documentation of the visit (order from the veterinarian, receipts for treatment) must be maintained at the Kennel for inspection purposes by LAAS staff.</p>
27	<p>Immediately isolate (place animal in a separate room) animals that have or are suspected of having a contagious condition. Such animals shall be removed from the kennel and transferred to a veterinarian without delay.</p>
28	<p>Kennels shall provide 24-hour onsite supervision when kenneling 20 cats/dogs or more. If less than 20 cats/dogs, the period without supervision can be no longer than 8 hours. In lieu of 24-hour supervision, a video surveillance system shall be installed whereby a responsible party can monitor the facility remotely with immediate response on any emergency.</p>
29	<p>An emergency evacuation plan, approved by the Department of Animal Services, shall be developed, published, and made known to all employees. A copy of the plan shall be posted upon the premises for viewing by the public. In addition, a copy of the evacuation plan shall be submitted to the submitted to the Department of Animal Services and maintained on file with the permittee's application.</p>
30	<p>Provide a notice, framed and enclosed under glass, visible at the entrance to the property, containing the names, addresses and telephone numbers of persons to be notified during any hour of the day or night who will proceed immediately to the location (within 1 hour of the call) so as to permit entry to the premises by representatives of the Department.</p>
31	<p>Whenever it is necessary to make an inspection to enforce any of these provisions or other applicable law, or whenever the General Manager or his authorized representative has reasonable cause to believe that there exists in any building or upon any premises any violation of LAMC Article 3 or other applicable law, the General Manager or his authorized representative is hereby authorized to enter such property at any reasonable time and to inspect the same and perform any duty imposed upon the General Manager by this Code or other applicable law.</p>
32	<p>The Department shall establish the maximum number of animals to be kept on or</p>

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	<p>maintained on the premises. Permittee shall maintain no more than the permitted number of animals at any time. (This includes animals boarded for a fee as well as animals owned by the permittee or otherwise located on the property.)</p>
33	<p>Kennels and exercise areas must be within the distance restrictions for property and buildings in the applicable zoned area. Kennels are permitted only on property zoned M1, M2, M3, MR1, MR2.</p>

In the event of a violation of these Standards, a single notice to comply shall be issued containing all of the following information:

1. As specified in LAMC 53.50, a Kennel Permit may be revoked or suspended for the following reasons:
 - a. That the permittee, his agent, or employee, has been convicted or any offense involving the violation of Section 597 of the Penal Code of the State of California, or any provision of this article; or
 - b. That the permittee, his agent, or employee, has, at the place for which the permit was issued, failed to provide any animal or fowl, in his possession, care or control, with proper and sufficient food, drink, shelter, or protection, or subjected any such animal, fowl or reptile to needless suffering, unnecessary cruelty, or abuse; or
 - c. That the permittee, his agent, or employee, has failed to maintain the premises in a clean and sanitary condition; or
 - d. That the permittee, his agent, or employee, has violated any rule or regulation of the Department.
2. Each violation of these Standards shall be specified in the Notice to Comply.
3. A specific period of time and the corrective action will be specified during which the listed violation or violations must be corrected.
4. A subsequent inspection shall be conducted within a reasonable period of time to verify compliance.
5. The kennel operator shall receive an exact, legible copy of the Notice to Comply at the time he or she signs the notice or within 48 hours of its issuance. The signing of the notice is an acknowledgment of receipt, and does not constitute an admission of guilt.
6. Failure to comply with the Notice to Comply in the specified time period, or any extension thereof, will be cause for revocation of the permit.
7. A violation of any provision of these Standards that causes or allows harm or injury to an animal, or allows an animal to be subject to an unreasonable risk of harm or injury, or potentially endangers staff, customers or neighbors of the Kennel, may result in an immediate revocation of the permit rather than a Notice to Comply.

These Standards shall be known, and may be cited, as the **City of Los Angeles Kennel Permit Standards** (revised May 2010).