

WORK EXPERIENCE WITH FELINE SERVICES

Feline services is the hub of Cat Protection: caring for the cats in our shelter and making their stay with us as happy, healthy and stress-free as possible.

The cats and staff greatly appreciate the time that volunteers give to help out. It is only with your assistance that we can keep things running smoothly and care for as many cats as possible.

Cats in a multi-cat environment are prone to stress which can compromise their immune systems, and shelter cats typically have experienced some degree of trauma prior to arrival. Simply moving is stressful for cats, but many of our charges are also missing people they loved, have come to us neglected, or even as victims of cruelty. In this context, infection control is of paramount importance to the health of our cats. For this reason, volunteers need to follow strict infection control protocols (as staff do) which requires an investment on our part in training and supervision.

Volunteering in feline services therefore requires a commitment of at least one three-hour shift per fortnight. If realistically you are unable to make this commitment, it is better to reconsider volunteering until your schedule permits. **Volunteer shifts are available seven days a week: morning shifts are from 10am to 1pm; afternoon shifts are from 1pm to 4pm.**

As we have a fairly small site, we can only roster on a certain number of volunteers per shift and as volunteering with feline services is popular, we may have a waiting list for vacancies. We will acknowledge your application but may not be able to consider it for up to two months, depending on availability of shifts in the roster. When your application is processed, we will invite you in and provide you with an induction program including a tour of our facilities and an overview of what we do, before finalising your appointment to a regular shift, the first three of which will be focused on training.

For legal reasons, all volunteers will be asked to complete a contact details form including names and numbers of people to contact in an emergency. These records are kept securely in accordance with our privacy policy. We also require volunteers to sign our volunteer register at the start and end of each shift. Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian during their shift. **Please note that we currently cannot accommodate Duke of Edinburgh participants.**

Feline services volunteers assist with ensuring the health and wellbeing of cats and kittens in our care. Duties include:

- Cleaning and disinfecting litter trays, bowls, carriers
- Laundry
- Socialisation (playing with, patting) and grooming of cats and kittens
- As requested, assisting feline services staff with other aspects of cat care, appropriate to the volunteer's skills and experience.

We ask that volunteers perform cleaning duties before socialising the cats and kittens.

At no time are volunteers to give advice to clients or to answer telephones, or provide cat care other than as directed. Our staff are trained and qualified to do their work within professional and organisational policies and guidelines. Incorrect practices or advice could cause problems for cats, their owners and legal problems for Cat Protection.

Volunteering is a serious and important occupation, but it is also a very rewarding way to spend your time. Committed, regular volunteers are a wonderful help to us and a great comfort to the cats who stay here while waiting for their new homes. If, after reading this, you feel that you have the time and commitment to volunteer then please complete the form below and send it to:

Administration Coordinator
Cat Protection Society of NSW Inc
103 Enmore Road
Newtown NSW 2042

Alternatively, you can email your application to admin@catprotection.org.au or fax your application to 02 9557 8052. If you have any questions, please telephone our Office on 02 9519 7201.

Feline Service Volunteer Work Experience Application Form

First Name: Last Name:

Address:
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Home Phone: Mobile:

Email:

Availability (Circle as many as applicable)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
AM	AM	AM	AM	AM	AM	AM
PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM

Weekly Shifts

Fortnightly Shifts

- Work placement details:
- High school work experience
 - TAFE work experience
 - University work experience
 - Other

Please outline course details:

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Please outline any specific skills / duties that must be completed during placement:

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Preferred start date:

Preferred end date:

Total volunteer hours required:

Do you currently volunteer with another organisation/s? Yes / No
Please provide current volunteer information.

Do you have any medical concerns (including allergies) that might affect your volunteering with us or that we need to know about in case of an emergency? Yes / No
If yes, please detail medical condition/s.

Do you have a current tetanus vaccination? Yes / No
If no, would you be willing to have one? Yes / No

Applicant signature: _____ Date: _____