

SAYV MEDICAL COVERAGE

ALL ANIMALS

Updated 3.14.25

- Microchip
- Spay/neuter (after 8 weeks of age, **no exceptions**)
- Preliminary dewormer (please contact us if you don't receive it - for adopters this may have been given by the original foster)
- Preliminary flea and tick (please contact us if you don't receive it - for adopters this may have been given by the original foster)
- Vaccines (details below)

IMPORTANT!

All appointments are made by SAYv until adoption is finalized, **no exceptions**. **Fosters, foster-to-adopters, and adopters are NOT permitted to call or contact any SAYv veterinary partners for any reason** (unless explicitly instructed for heartworm treatment). **We handle all scheduling.**

For adopters, additional medical issues are generally not covered. Until adoption is finalized, SAYv is in charge of any and all medical decisions, **no exceptions**. Legally these animals are in our care, making us responsible for them.

APPOINTMENTS WILL BE THROUGH SAYv AND OUR VET PARTNERS. We do NOT reimburse for personal vets used or out-of-network vets used. Both fosters and adopters will have to visit our vet partners and adhere to our rules.

Sometimes we may decide that a medical issue does not warrant a vet visit and we may try to treat ourselves before making an appointment.

Veterinarians are not on call 24/7 and therefore, we have to be patient while we are scheduling. Some of them book several weeks out. We will not utilize an emergency veterinarian unless absolutely NEEDED. If you see an issue starting, report it as early in the day as possible. We cannot pay for an emergency visit simply because someone didn't inform us quickly enough. That is the difference between \$300 and \$3,000, which is a misuse of donor funds.



PUPPIES

VACCINES

- Round 1 - Distemper combo, aka DHPP or DAPP [usually start at 6ish weeks or later]
- Round 2 - Distemper combo (DHPP/DAPP)
- Round 3 - DHPP or DAPP [2-4 weeks after round 2]
- Bordetella vaccine
- Lepto vaccine (after 13 weeks of age)
- Rabies vaccine (after 16 weeks of age)

adopters' vet may recommend more round of DHPP/DAPP

Items in **BLUE** are not guaranteed to be included with the adoption fee! Sometimes we have the opportunity to cover these services, sometimes we do not.

ADULT DOGS

VACCINES

- Round 1 - Distemper combo (DHPP/DAPP)
- Rabies vaccine - no specific timeline
- Round 2 - Distemper combo (DHPP/DAPP)
- Bordetella vaccine
- Leptospirosis vaccine

OTHER MEDICAL

- Heartworm test

KITTENS

VACCINES

- Round 1 - FVRCP [usually start at 6ish weeks or later]
- Round 2 - FVRCP [2-4 weeks after round 1]
- Round 3 - FVRCP [2-4 weeks after round 2]
- Rabies - after 16 weeks of age

OTHER MEDICAL

- FIV/FelV snap test

adopters' vet may recommend more rounds of FVRCP

ADULT CATS

VACCINES

- Round 1 - FVRCP
- Rabies vaccine - no specific timeline
- Round 2 - FVRCP [2-4 weeks after round 1]

OTHER MEDICAL

- FIV/FelV snap test

SAYV MEDICAL COVERAGE

MISCELLANEOUS

- SAYv does not cover medical issues or costs caused by foster-to-adopters or adopters. These issues are not within our control or capacity to prevent. These costs are typical the responsibility of FTAs and adopters. Some examples include:
 - An adopter left out a pill bottle of medicine in an area where a foster dog could access it and their foster dog ate the pills in the bottle.
 - An adopter dog gets into the garbage and eats something that requires an emergency vet visit.
 - An adopter's resident cat harms their foster dog and causes an eye ulcer.
- SAYv does not cover dental cleanings; these costs are passed onto adopters.
 - There are sometimes exceptions for animals that we knew needed dental care before intake or emergency dental needs.
- SAYv generally does not cover miscellaneous medical issues while an animal is in a foster-to-adopt or adoptive home (where adoption is not yet finalized).
 - We are a nonprofit organization, and the adoption fees that we charge rarely cover the minimum we spend per animal. If you are adopting an animal, you should be expecting medical costs, it's part of having an animal companion. The only reason adoption is delayed is due to basic vetting that has yet to be completed, payment, or other concerns that have been communicated. We cover *basic* medical care and necessary medical care.
 - Examples: Removal of dewclaws, miscellaneous lumps, etc.
- Animals that are heartworm positive will be treated for heartworm disease by SAYv until they are heartworm negative. These animals can be moved into foster-to-adopt homes until treatment is complete (we don't prevent them from moving to adoptive homes solely because of heartworm treatment). Once in a foster-to-adopt home, aside from the medical procedures covered in this document and heartworm treatment, medical costs are the responsibility of the adopter.
 - Adoption is often finalized before the final heartworm test is completed (~8 months after treatment completion) - see the heartworm disease details on [this page](#).
- SAYv does not cover medical costs of humans in foster homes or foster-to-adopt homes.
 - Example: A foster cat bites their foster or foster-to-adopters - in this case we would not cover the costs of going to the doctor.



Preferred vet/clinic



Only if needed - additional fees apply to adopters, fundraising support needed from fosters



Volunteer to do vaccines (based on vaccine availability and species of animal)



Further than map displays

REMINDER

Fosters and adopters are not to contact SAYv vet partners for ANY reason. All communication and scheduling must go through SAYv.

*Catnap from the Heart does not spay female dogs

** PAWS Chicago will only spay/neuter dogs from Chicago Animal Care and Control (CACC), but cats don't need to come from CACC