

Important information for breeders

Update to pet registration requirements in NSW

Updates to the registration process

From 1 July 2024, the Office of Local Government implemented clause 14 a) and b) of [the Companion Animals Regulation 2018](#) wherein:

a companion animal is required to be registered –

- a. from the time the animal is 12 weeks old, or
- b. when the animal is first sold (even if it is less than 12 weeks old).

What does this mean for breeders?

Payment of the standard registration fee is required –

- a. from the time the animal is 12 weeks old, or
- b. the date on which ownership of the animal is transferred to a new owner, whichever happens first.

Until payment is made, a pet is not registered. Breeders must pay the registration fee for any pets who are still in their name from 12 weeks of age.

Pets do not have to be desexed by 12 weeks

Owners of non-desexed cats over 4 months of age must pay an annual permit. Owners of non-desexed dogs over 6 months of age must pay a once-only additional fee.

With the rollout of the new NSW Digital Pet Registry, registration and desexing fees have been decoupled, and only the [standard registration fee](#) is payable by 12 weeks, *regardless of the pet's desexed status*. This applies to registrations paid via the NSW Digital Pet Registry, or when fees are paid at council.

If they are not desexed at 4 or 6 months of age, you will then be required to pay the appropriate fee for owning a non-desexed pet.

Interstate and overseas transfers

When an animal is being transferred interstate or overseas, the new owner is responsible for following the laws and regulations of the home state where the animal will be kept.

If a pet is kept in NSW, and is over 12 weeks of age, the breeder must pay the registration fee.

Registering a recognised breeding animal

Breeders must pay the standard registration fee (*not concession rate*) for any animal in their care at 12 weeks. To apply the breeding animal desexing exemption, breeders will need to supply their local council documentation the animal is a recognised breeding animal before they turn 4 months (cats) or 6 months of age (dogs) to avoid paying additional fees.

[Register a breeding animal | Office of Local Government](#)

Contact us
For more information please contact the NSW Pet Registry Helpdesk: T: 1300 134 460 E: pets@olg.nsw.gov.au W: www.petregistry.olg.nsw.gov.au