



## Why register my dog?

### There are real benefits

Registering your dog is an important part of being a good dog owner. In addition to a microchip, dog registration identifies your dog as your property and gives your council important information about your dog's breed, size and home address. This information, along with the money raised through registration, goes directly back into the services your council provides to manage dogs.

For this reason, all dogs three months of age and over must be registered in the name of an owner 16 years or older.

Family pets and dogs kept for general purposes are an 'Individual Registration'. A business or person who has numerous dogs, kept as part of a breeding, training or security business, may register a number of dogs as a 'Business Registration' with councils that offer this fee rather than registering each dog individually.

### We understand...

...some councils limit the number of dogs you may keep on a property, so it's best to check out your local council by-law.

### Registration:

#### An investment in your community

The funds raised from registration enables:

- A 'proof of ownership' identification system for all registered dogs allowing lost or injured dogs to be quickly re-united with their owners
- Maintenance of council dog pounds and staff
- Equipment, fencing, bag dispensers and other materials for council maintained dog parks
- Funding of the Dog and Cat Management Board, which coordinates dog and cat management over the 68 council areas. The Board undertakes research, provides education materials and media communications to raise awareness of responsible pet ownership
- Funds from dog registration can only be spent on dog management matters, set out in the Dog and Cat Management Act and cannot be used for general council expenditure
- There are penalties and fines that apply for keeping an unregistered dog.

## We understand...

...the best way to be quickly reunited with your lost dog is to make sure it is microchipped and always wears a collar with their current registration disc and a name tag with your contact details.



## How are registration fees set?

Each council sets their own dog registration fees, with most offering rebates on the basis of desexing, microchipping, evidence of training or other concessions. These rebates were introduced to encourage good dog ownership.

From 2017, new state-wide standards will apply to simplify dog registration into a minimum of two categories:

- **Standard Dog** - dogs that have been microchipped and desexed
- **Non-Standard Dog** - all other dogs, including those with desexing exemptions, such as working dogs

While councils must offer a rebate for a Standard Dog, they still have the power to grant additional rebates based on their local community's needs, such as dogs that are trained but not desexed. This new Standard Dog category reflects changes in the law that make it mandatory to have your dog microchipped from 1 July 2018, with all dogs born after this date also required to be desexed.

Life-time dog registration is not available in South Australia. South Australian dogs are required to be registered each year by the 31st August.

## Proper identification

Your dog must wear a collar with a current registration disc when outside your own property. Ideally, your dog should wear it at all times in case it wanders or escapes your yard. In addition, a name tag along with your contact details and current mobile phone number is suggested. If your dog loses its collar, or it has been removed, a micro-chip assists in your dog's identification and return.

## General registration

**Individual dogs:** Family pets, re-homed pet greyhounds and all dogs kept for general purposes.

**Disability dogs:** No registration fee is payable for an accredited disability dog, guide dog or hearing dog.

## Business registration

**Business registration fees:** A council may choose to charge a flat fee for the registration regardless of how many dogs are held or alternatively choose to determine a fee per dog held and then charge a multiple of that fee.

## Dog Registration: a Good Owner tip

As the owner, you are accountable for your dog's behaviour, so it's important to understand the needs of your dog and your responsibilities.

To find the facts and other tips on how to be a good dog owner, visit [dogandcatboard.com.au](http://dogandcatboard.com.au)



An initiative of the **DOG AND CAT MANAGEMENT BOARD** and your local council. Council information and contact details can be located at [www.lga.sa.gov.au](http://www.lga.sa.gov.au) View the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* along with Information Sheets on selection, health, behaviour and care at [www.dogandcatboard.com.au](http://www.dogandcatboard.com.au)