

Gold Label Pets® Certification Procedure

In order to achieve distinction as a Gold Label Pets® Certified Facility, the facility must be a current member and hold current licenses from the USDA and state agencies, if required. Independent verification of licenses will be conducted by the Gold Label Pets® Committee.

The Gold Label Pets® Certified Humane Care Guidelines® Program requires independent inspection by a licensed veterinarian who will attest to compliance with the Guidelines contained herein, The Certification Procedure is as follows:

1. The facility completes and submits the application form to Gold Label Pets®. Valid license numbers will be verified independently by the association. The facility also submits a signed Contract of Inspection, which allows all parts of the facility pertaining to animals (except financial and shipping records) to be open for inspection upon the request of Gold Label Pets®.
2. The Gold Label Pets® Veterinary Inspection Form will be sent directly to the designated inspecting veterinarian.
3. An on-site inspection must be scheduled between the inspecting veterinarian and the facility. In addition to inspecting the facility and animals, a complete review of the animal health program in effect must be conducted.
4. The application form will inquire whether there is an investigation under way by a government licensing agency or a registration association. Gold Label Pets® reserves the right to delay certification until an independent investigation is completed. Gold Label Pets® also reserves the right to suspend certification if one of the aforementioned groups begins an investigation of a Certified Facility. If a discrepancy is found, Gold Label Pets® reserves the right to begin an independent investigation to determine the status of certification.
5. Pictures of the facility are required in order to be approved for certification. These pictures should represent a “pictorial tour” of the facility. The following is a list of the pictures should be enclosed with the completed veterinary inspection, current USDA inspection and any state inspections or licenses (if applicable). This list should be used as a guide, not to exclude any other pictures that might be important to show the overall view of the facility:
 - a. A picture from the front approach looking at the facility premises (distant)
 - b. An outside overall view of the total facility (close)
 - c. Outside of each building related to animal care or housing
 - d. Inside of each room related to animal care or housing from two different angles

Provide a minimum of six photos.

NEW PICTURES ARE REQUIRED EACH YEAR UPON CERTIFICATION RENEWAL.

When sending in Certification renewal, also send in current photos using the above criteria.

6. The completed and signed Veterinary Inspection Form and photos will be sent directly to the Gold Label Pets® office according to the instructions of the Inspection Form. An appointed Guideline and Certification Committee of the Board will have final determination of certification.

Once certified, veterinary inspections must occur annually. Gold Label Pets® reserves the option to require more frequent inspections on the advice of the Guideline and Certification Committee.

GOLD LABEL PETS® CERTIFIED FACILITY APPLICATION FORM:

Complete in Full (please print or type.)

Name: _____

Facility Name: _____

I am a: Breeder Distributor Pet Store Other (Please Specify) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-Mail: _____

USDA License No. (if required): _____

Name of USDA Inspector: _____

Date of last inspection: _____

State License No. (if required): _____

Name of State Inspector: _____

Date of last inspection: _____

Attending Veterinarian: _____

Clinic Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Veterinarian's Phone Number: _____

Are you currently under investigation by a government agency? Yes No

If so, please name:

Are you currently under investigation by a registry agency? Yes No

If so, please name:

Is your membership in Gold Label Pets® current? Yes No New

I guarantee that the information on this application is truthful and accurate, and hereby agree to accept and abide by all terms, conditions, code of ethics, and inspections established by Gold Label Pets® Certified Humane Care Guidelines® for the Facility Program. I realize that violation of these terms could result in my dismissal from the program, the right to claim Gold Label Pets® Certification, and the privilege to advertise Gold Label status.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Please return with \$35.00 application fee to:

Gold Label Pets®
PMB 505
2020 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20006-1846

GOLD LABEL PETS® CODE OF ETHICS

As a member of the Gold Label Pets® Certified Humane Care program, I recognize that in order to fulfill my obligations to: the animals in my care; my customers; the pet industry; and my community, both my business and personal life must be governed by honorable standards. Therefore, I solemnly pledge:

1. To provide conscientious care for animals entrusted to me, being constantly attentive to their security, safety and well being, and to place their welfare above all other business considerations.
2. To take every opportunity to learn more about my profession and to improve my services above personal gain.
3. To deal honestly and fairly and respect the confidence of every customer served.
4. To deal honestly and fairly with retailers and the public, and to avoid misrepresentation of my services.
5. To encourage responsible pet ownership, and to promote, especially through the charitable programs of Gold Label Pets®, an increased public awareness and acceptance of humane and noble animal programs.
6. To obey all applicable federal, state and local laws governing animal care.
7. As a member of Gold Label Pets® Certified Facilities, I pledge and will strive to see that all other members comply and conform to this code of ethics.