

Rehoming agreement

Section 54C of the *Animal Research Act 1985* requires authorised persons (accredited research establishments or the holders of animal research authorities) to take all reasonable steps to rehome a dog or cat kept for use in research with a suitable individual or an animal rescue organisation. Section 54A defines “animal rescue organisation” and “suitable individual” as follows:

animal rescue organisation includes an animal shelter, foster carer or foster care network that provides temporary care for an animal for the purpose of finding a new home for the animal.

suitable individual means an individual who —

- (a) agrees to provide an animal with a home and appropriate care, and
- (b) agrees to not keep the animal for animal research, and
- (c) meets criteria prescribed by the regulations for the purpose of this definition.

The NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development’s and Animal Research Review Panel’s *Guideline for compliance with the Animal Research Amendment (Right to Release) Act 2022* outlines additional criteria that suitable individuals should also meet. The guideline also recommends that authorised persons collect a declaration to ensure they are a suitable individual in accordance with the *Animal Research Act 1985* and the additional criteria recommended in the guideline.

Authorised persons must also ensure that records are kept of the details of the suitable individual or animal rescue organisation with whom the animal has been rehomed, in accordance with section 54F(c) of the *Animal Research Act 1985*. It is recommended that all records are kept for 7 years.

This form is a template that authorised persons can use to collect a declaration from a suitable individual, and the details of the individual. A separate form should be completed for each animal to be rehomed.

This form can also be used as a “Rehoming Agreement” if part 5 is also completed by the authorised person, confirming transfer of ownership of the animal to the suitable individual or animal rescue organisation.

1. Authorised person details *[to be completed by the authorised person]*

1.1 Full name of authorised person (*company or business name if the authorised person is an accredited research establishment*)

1.2 Contact details for authorised person (*phone, email & address*)

1.3 Full name of authorised person's representative (*the person completing this form*)

2. Animal details *[to be completed by the authorised person]*

2.1 Species ☐ Dog ☐ Cat

2.2 Name/identifier

2.3 Microchip number

2.4 Sex ☐ Female ☐ Male ☐ Desexed

2.5 Date of birth or estimated age

2.6 Breed

2.7 Description of the animal (*colour, markings, tattoos, etc*)

3. Suitable individual *[to be completed by the suitable individual, if applicable]*

3.1 Full name

3.2 Address where the animal will be kept

3.3 Contact details *(phone, email & address if different from the above)*

3.4 Declaration by suitable individual

I hereby agree to take ownership of _____[*name/identifier of the animal*], being the animal described in part 2 of this form. I declare that I am a “suitable individual” as defined in section 54A of the *Animal Research Act 1985*. I also declare the following (*tick each box if applicable*):

- ☐ I am aged 18 years or over.
- ☐ I have NOT been convicted of an offence in NSW under any of the following legislation:
 - *Animal Research Act 1985*
 - *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979*
 - *Exhibited Animals Protection Act 1986*
 - *Crimes Act 1900* (animal cruelty offences)
- ☐ I have NOT been convicted of an offence in another jurisdiction which would constitute an offence under any of the above legislation if it had been committed in NSW.
- ☐ I will NOT disclose any identifying information about the authorised person described in part 1 of this form unless in accordance with section 54D(2) of the *Animal Research Act 1985*.
- ☐ I have completed this form with true and accurate information to the best of my knowledge.

For the animal described in part 2 of this form:

- ☐ I agree to provide the animal with a home and appropriate care.
- ☐ I agree NOT to keep, use, or supply the animal for "animal research" (as defined in section 3 of the *Animal Research Act 1985*) in NSW or any other jurisdiction (including interstate or overseas).
- ☐ I agree to provide any other reasonable information requested by the authorised person or their animal care and ethics committee that is relevant to the rehoming of the animal.
- ☐ I have been provided with sufficient information about the animal as per section 54C(2) of the *Animal Research Act 1985*.
- ☐ I have been provided with a completed “Change of Ownership” form (Form C3A) by the authorised person and am aware of my obligations under the *Companion Animals Act 1998*.

<u>Suitable individual</u>	<u>Witness</u>
..... Print full name Print full name
..... Signature Signature
..... Date Date

4. Animal rescue organisation details *[to be completed by a representative of the animal rescue organisation, if applicable]*

4.1 Name of animal rescue organisation

4.2 Address where animal will be kept

4.3 Contact details (phone number & email)

4.4 Declaration by animal rescue organisation

I hereby agree that _____[print name of animal rescue organisation]
will take ownership of _____[name/identifier of the animal], being the animal
described in part 2 of this form.

I also declare the following (tick each box if applicable):

- ☐ I am an authorised representative of _____[print name of animal rescue organisation] and I am completing this declaration on its behalf.
- ☐ I will NOT disclose any identifying information about the authorised person described in part 1 of this form unless in accordance with section 54D(2) of the *Animal Research Act 1985*.
- ☐ I have completed this form with true and accurate information to the best of my knowledge.

For the animal described in part 2 of this form:

- ☐ I agree NOT to keep, use, or supply the animal for "animal research" (as defined in section 3 of the *Animal Research Act 1985*) in NSW or any other jurisdiction (including interstate or overseas).
- ☐ I agree to provide any other reasonable information requested by the authorised person or their animal care and ethics committee that is relevant to the rehoming of the animal.
- ☐ I have been provided with sufficient information about the animal as per section 54C(2) of the *Animal Research Act 1985*.
- ☐ I have been provided with a completed "Change of Ownership" form (Form C3A) by the authorised person and am aware of my obligations under the *Companion Animals Act 1998*.

<u>Animal rescue organisation - authorised representative</u>	<u>Witness</u>
..... Print full name Print full name
..... Signature Signature
..... Date Date

5. Declaration by authorised person

On behalf of _____[print name of authorised person described in part 1 of this form], I **REHOME AND TRANSFER OWNERSHIP** of _____[name/identifier of animal], being the animal described in part 2 of this form, to _____[print full name of suitable individual or animal rescue organisation], effective as of the date this declaration is signed.

In doing so, I declare the following (tick each box if applicable):

- ☐ I am the authorised person, or the representative of the authorised person, described in part 1 of this form.
- ☐ I have completed this form with true and accurate information to the best of my knowledge.
- ☐ To the best of my knowledge, the person described in part 3 of this form is a suitable individual as per section 54A of the *Animal Research Act 1985*.
- ☐ To the best of my knowledge, the organisation described in part 4 of this form is a legitimate animal rescue organisation that intends to locate a home for the animal.
- ☐ I have provided the person or organisation with sufficient information about the animal, as per section 54C(2) of the *Animal Research Act 1985*.
- ☐ I have provided the person or organisation described in part 3 or 4 of this form with a completed “Change of Ownership” form (Form C3A) in accordance with the *Companion Animals Act 1998*.

<u>Authorised person (or representative)</u>	<u>Witness</u>
.....
Print full name	Print full name
.....
Signature	Signature
.....
Date	Date