



Calculating Cost of Care Bond/Deposit

For reference, see ORC Section 959.132 - Impounding and disposition of companion animal.

The following list is meant to provide guidance for determining the amount of a bond or cash deposit that is needed to provide for a seized and impounded animal's care and keeping for thirty (30) days beginning on the date on which the animal was impounded. Note that the cost of care can be recalculated after 30 days, and the calculation may change based on the needs of the animal at that time.

Cost of care formulas may vary, but in general the cost of care for bond purposes is simply a boarding fee that includes the essentials involved in caring for a generally healthy animal per day: food, medications, veterinary costs, and staff time, as well as costs involved in operating the building (utilities, insurance, property taxes). Many humane societies in Ohio have adopted \$15 as their standard cost of care per day for bond purposes.

Below is a list of some common expenses to consider when calculating cost of care per animal, per case at your agency or facility, whether for a care bond or reimbursement. These costs should be about the same, except that costs of care are calculated month by month, whereas reimbursement is the entire amount over the entire period while the impounding agency had the animal.

ANIMAL CARE (*calculate per animal*)

- Animal feed
- Cat litter
- Medical supplies and waste
- Contracted vet services (including specialty services like dental)
- Diagnostic testing
- Vaccines; all medications
- Wormer
- Preventatives
- Surgical costs
- Outside care
- Shelter supplies
- Vehicle rental
- Transport fees
- Boarding fees
- Horse-specific costs for shoeing, teeth floating, etc.
- Additional supplies required to care for species you don't usually serve
- Salary and wages of animal caretaker, veterinarian and vet tech

When applicable, consider the level of skilled care required for each animal. Did they require special housing? 24-hour care? Were they kept in quarantine, or housed with the general population?