



FSD Exam Protocol

Freedom Service Dogs exam protocol for local and satellite raisers.

Health Department Contact Info

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Local Raisers

Scheduled Exams, Procedures, and Health Evaluations

- **Veterinary Exams at FSD**
 - Onsite vet exams are conducted on Tuesday mornings starting at 8am – 11:30a.
 - The Health Coordinator will coordinate exams with raisers as needed. If a raiser has a health concern or believes their puppy needs to be seen, the below procedure for reporting health concerns should be followed.
- **Spay and Neuter**
 - FSD generally alters dogs around 12-14 months of age. The Puppy Health Coordinator will reach out to raisers around this time to schedule and coordinate spay/neuter appointments. The raiser is responsible for taking the dog to the appointment and picking them up, unless other plans are made.
 - At least one week prior to the spay/neuter procedure, an appointment at FSD must be scheduled for pre-surgery blood work and a fecal test. The Puppy Health Coordinator will schedule this at the same time as the spay/neuter procedure.
 - If you are raising a female dog, you must notify the Puppy Health Coordinator when your dog goes into heat.
- **Breeding Evaluations**
 - If your dog is considered as a breeding candidate, your dog may not be spayed or neutered until a later date.
 - A FSD staff member may reach out to schedule other health evaluations around 12-14 months of age. The raiser is responsible for taking the dog to the appointment and picking them up, unless other plans are made.
- **Other Procedures**
 - There may be times when the Puppy Health Coordinator recommends a puppy be seen at an offsite clinic for diagnostics or procedures. The Puppy Health Coordinator will coordinate these appointments with the raiser. The raiser is responsible for taking the dog to the appointment and picking them up, unless other plans are made.

Process for Reporting and Addressing Health Concerns – LOCAL RAISERS

- For non-urgent health concerns or observations, use the Health Concern Submission Form – link can be found on the Puppy Portal.
- The Puppy Health Coordinator will be in contact within 24-48 hours of form submission. Please check your spam folder if you have submitted a recent form, as emails from FSD often end up here, especially for Gmail users.
- If the Puppy Health Coordinator recommends that the puppy be examined by a veterinarian, the raiser is responsible for coordinating with the Puppy Health Coordinator to schedule an appointment with FSD's onsite veterinarian. The FSD veterinarian is onsite for exams on Tuesdays from 8am-11:30am by appointment.
- If the onsite vet is unable to examine the puppy for any reason, the Puppy Health Coordinator may advise that the puppy be seen at one of the local veterinary partners. In this scenario, the Puppy Health Coordinator will reach out to the raiser to gather their availability and will be responsible for scheduling the appointment with the veterinary partner. The Puppy Health Coordinator will then inform the raiser of the confirmed appointment date and time. If the appointment needs to be rescheduled for any reason, it is the raiser's responsibility to notify the Puppy Health Coordinator so the appointment can be adjusted accordingly. Veterinary clinics typically require at least 24 hours' notice for cancellations.
- Raisers living outside the Denver metro area should first try to schedule an exam with the FSD vet if travel is possible. If the puppy needs to be examined by a vet and cannot be seen by the onsite vet for whatever reason, the raiser should contact the Puppy Health Coordinator for help in setting up an appointment with an approved local vet.
- **In an emergency situation**, the raiser should call the Puppy Health Coordinator. If the Puppy Health Coordinator cannot be reached in a timely manner, the puppy should be taken to one of the approved emergency vet hospitals. FSD consents to stabilizing treatment. As soon as the puppy's condition is stabilized, the Puppy Health Coordinator must be notified before further care is provided. In an emergency situation in which an approved emergency vet is not a reasonable option, ie. too far away, the raiser should take the puppy to the nearest emergency veterinary hospital and notify the Puppy Health Coordinator ASAP.

Process for Reporting and Addressing Health Concerns – SATELITTE RAISERS

- For non-urgent health concerns or observations, use the Health Concern Submission Form – link can be found on the Puppy Portal.
- The Puppy Health Coordinator will be in contact within 24-48 hours of form submission. Please check your spam folder if you have submitted a recent form, as emails from FSD often end up here, especially for Gmail users.
- If the Puppy Health Coordinator recommends that the puppy be examined by a veterinarian, the raiser is responsible for coordinating with the Puppy Health Coordinator to schedule an appointment with a satellite veterinary partner.
- If the Puppy Health Coordinator advises that the puppy be seen at one of the satellite veterinary partners, the Puppy Health Coordinator will reach out to the raiser to gather their availability and will be responsible for scheduling the appointment with the veterinary partner. The Puppy Health Coordinator will then inform the raiser of the confirmed appointment date and time. If the appointment needs to be rescheduled for any reason, it is the raiser's responsibility to notify the Puppy Health Coordinator so the appointment can be adjusted accordingly. Veterinary clinics typically require at least 24 hours' notice for cancellations.
- **In an emergency situation**, the raiser should call the Puppy Health Coordinator. If the Puppy Health Coordinator cannot be reached in a timely manner, the puppy should be taken to an emergency vet hospital. FSD consents to stabilizing treatment. As soon as the puppy's condition is stabilized, the Puppy Health Coordinator must be notified before further care is provided.

Examples of concerning symptoms that may require emergency care-

- Persistent vomiting- puppy can't keep anything down
- Not eating for over 24 hours
- Diarrhea in combination with any other below symptoms or persisting for more than 48 hours, diarrhea that has progressed to pure liquid, blood, or black with lack of energy, vomiting, or loss of appetite.
- Lameness or inability to stand, etc.- different than limping
- Difficulty breathing
- Excessive bleeding
- Seizure or confusion
- Unresponsiveness
- Extreme pain response
- No urinations noted in more than 24 hours
- Severe trauma, broken limb
- White or blue gums
- Fever over 103 degrees with lethargy
- Suspected poisoning: xylitol, grapes, chocolate, antifreeze, OTC medications.
- Just not acting right

**This list is not exhaustive- if you are unsure, please contact the Puppy Health Coordinator or take the puppy to the nearest emergency hospital.*

Approved Vet Locations for Routine Care- Denver Metro Area

VCA Wingate

Vet- scheduled exams, routine treatment, and surgeries
9464 E Caley Ave.
Englewood, CO 80111
303-771-8620

Inspire Vet Hospital - Parker

Vet- scheduled exams, routine treatment, and surgeries
9855 S Parker Rd,
Parker, CO 80134
720-615-0774

Inspire Vet Hospital – Highland Ranch

Vet – scheduled exams, routine treatment, and surgeries
545 W Highlands Ranch Parkway
Highlands Ranch, CO 80129
720-762-4940

Goodheart Animal Health Center

Vet- scheduled exams, routine treatment, and surgeries
2306 E. 6th Ave
Denver, CO 80206
720-780-7766

VCA Deer Creek Animal Hospital

Vet- scheduled exams, routine treatment, and surgeries
10148 W Chatfield Ave
Littleton, CO 80127
303-973-4200

Approved Emergency and Specialty Vet Locations- Denver Metro Area

Animal Emergency and Specialty Center

Emergency and Specialty Vet- emergencies, after-hours care, specialty
17701 Cottonwood Dr.
Parker, CO 80134
720-842-5050

CVSG

Emergency and Specialty Vet- emergencies, after-hours care
401 E County Line Rd
Littleton, CO 80122
303-794-1188

North Springs Veterinary Referral Center

Emergency and Specialty Vet- emergencies, after-hours care, specialty
10520 White Diamond Point
Colorado Springs, CO 80908
719-920-4430

Wheat Ridge Animal Hospital

Emergency and Specialty Vet- emergencies, after-hours care, specialty
10140 W 44th Ave.
Wheat Ridge, CO 80033
303-424-3325

Veterinary Specialist of the Rockies

Emergency, after-hour care
774 Maleta Lane
Castle Rock, CO 80108
303-660-1027

Veterinary Emergency Group (VEG) – multiple locations:

Denver, Boulder, Denver Tech Center, Edgewater, Littleton

Emergency, after-hour care
6305 E. Hampden Ave #101
Denver, CO 80222
720-739-6003