



Out of State Animal Rescue License[©]

By Claudine Wilkins, Founder of Animal Law Source™ and The Animal Protection Society

Copyright 2021, All rights reserved

Does the Georgia Department of Agriculture (GADOA) require anyone from out of state to have a GADOA animal rescue license?

Yes, a GADOA Animal Rescue license would be required only if the animal rescue person comes into Georgia and does “licensable activity” (i.e., taking in animals, rehoming animals, pulling animals from shelters and/or transporting animals out of state).

They are referred to as an "out of state animal rescue" (OSAR) and they are required to have a license. However, they are not inspected yearly as are other licensees and they cannot foster animals. The OSAR licensee will pay \$400 per year for their license. It is renewable every year and the fees are annual.

In order for the GADOA to have authority over the animal rescue activities in Georgia, the applicant must sign a “Consent to Jurisdiction” agreement (see below). Any violations by the OSAR or revocations, suspensions, stop orders or fines imposed on the OSAR can be pursued by the GADOA. Also, Georgia animal shelters or animal rescues who uses "OSARs" are asked to document and keep track of the OSAR (name, address, contact info and license number).

HOW TO APPLY?

Click [here](#) to reach the license application choices. Once the applicant is on this page, he/she will need to select the link for the license type they are applying for, which will then take them to the appropriate application. Typically, a new OSAR animal rescue will choose this application, click [here](#). It is the same application for an in-state animal rescue. In this application, *the address* used by the applicant will indicate whether they are an OSAR.

Once the application is received by the GADOA, the applicant will receive a Consent to Jurisdiction Form to be signed and returned to complete the application. This form and the application will be reviewed by the GADOA. If approved, the applicant will receive an information packet regarding OSAR information.

If you have any further questions, contact the [GADOA](#)

CONSENT TO JURISDICTION FOR NONRESIDENTS

A Consent to Jurisdiction for Nonresidents form must be signed and submitted to the Georgia Department of Agriculture by all nonresidents who are applying for a license under the Georgia Animal Protection Act.

§ 4-11-6. Applicability of article to nonresidents; consent to jurisdiction; service

Any person who is not a resident of this state but who engages in this state in any activities for which a license is required by this article shall be subject to this article as to such activities. Each nonresident applicant for a license required by this article shall be required as a condition of licensure to execute consent to the jurisdiction of the courts of this state for any action filed under this article; and service of process in any such action shall be by certified mail or statutory overnight delivery by the Commissioner.

IF YOU ARE NOT A RESIDENT OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA, you must agree to and sign the following:

I, as a non-resident applicant for a license under the Georgia Animal Protection Act § O.C.G.A. 4-11-1, agree that the Georgia Department of Agriculture shall have jurisdiction over me in any and all of my activities that are licensable under the Georgia Animal Protection Act § O.C.G.A. 4-11-1, as if I were a Georgia resident licensee. I agree that civil and legal actions may be commenced against me in any court of competent jurisdiction in any county of the State of Georgia.

Legal Signature of Applicant _____

Print Name of Applicant _____

Date _____