**Please be sure to read before filling out your adoption application to see if a pig is the right fit for your family!**

Pigs are unique and fun companions and can make the most wonderful family members for the right people. But a pig isn't a good fit for all lifestyles, personalities, and situations. They are not dogs, and are not interested in going on a hike or jog, fetching a stick, or fawning over you. They are not cats, content to fend for themselves all day. They have their own traits, behaviors, and needs. It's important to meet a variety of pigs of different ages and temperaments before deciding to bring one home. Please don't get a pig on impulse because they're cute; do your research first! A mini pig can live up to 20 years or more, and is a lifetime commitment.

The number of unwanted pigs in need of new homes is staggering, and is often due to unrealistic expectations, misinformation, and unpreparedness on the human's part. Enthusiastic animal lovers are deceived by marketing terms like "teacup pig," "micro-mini," and "dandy," and by breeders who claim that their pigs will stay under 50 pounds or some other unrealistic weight. In truth, mini pigs generally weigh between 80 and 250 pounds (some a bit more and some a bit less) when they reach full size around age five. If a full-grown pig weighs significantly less than that, they were most likely underfed as a piglet to stunt their growth, leading to major health problems and a shortened lifespan. Even the term "miniature pig" can be misleading; it refers to any pig under 300-350 pounds or so, which is indeed miniature in comparison to an 800 to 1,000 pound farm pig! Note that a hundred-pound pig is not the same size as a hundred pound Saint Bernard; while 100 pounds is 100 pounds when it comes to lifting your pig's carrier into your vehicle, pigs are extremely compact, so are much smaller in stature than a dog of similar weight.

Rescue groups across the country are overloaded with pigs in need, and we have many pigs waiting for new homes at any given time. In addition to misinformation and lack of preparedness, reasons for rehoming range from a long-distance move to zoning issues to the death of a caregiver or life changes that make caring for the pig difficult. Pigs can reproduce at a very young age and rapid rate, so failure to spay and neuter companion pigs is another major cause of unwanted piglets. Even when pigs are rehomed due to "behavior problems," most of these issues can be resolved with improved understanding of a pig's needs and natural behaviors. Making adjustments to the environment, changing the humans' behavior, and training the pig in a firm but compassionate way can completely turn things around.

There are many benefits to adopting a pig rather than buying one from a breeder. First and foremost, you get the satisfaction of knowing that you're giving an animal in need a lifelong home and doing your part to combat the crisis of unwanted pigs. Depending on the situation the pig comes from, you may be able to learn details about their personality and quirks, especially if they were in their previous home for a long time. This information can help ensure that the pig is a good fit for your family. Many rescue groups can assist in the matchmaking process, provide education and guidance in pig parenting, and support you if questions or concerns arise in the future.

If you feel that a pig may be a good addition to your household or want to learn more, please submit an adoption application so that one of our adoption coordinators can discuss your situation and needs with you and help you come to the right decision for your family.

If after careful consideration, you decide that you are not in a position to adopt a pig, but would still like to spend time with them, contact us to volunteer! That could end up as a win-win for you and the pigs who will benefit from your care and attention. We have volunteer applications online at noahsanimalrescuecenter.org

**Do I have the time, love, patience, and attention to offer a pig throughout his or her lifespan?**

Pigs are sensitive, intelligent, and social. Change is hard for them; they need stability and trust. Too many pigs end up discarded or relegated to a lonely pen because the novelty of a new animal wears off, the family experiences changes (including a new baby, an aging relative, an increased work schedule, or more frequent travel), or issues arise that they are not prepared to address. Undesirable behaviors, such as aggression or destructiveness, are often a pig's way of expressing frustration or boredom, and can emerge with changes in the home or may indicate that something in the environment is not working for the pig. Pigs can also become very depressed without attention, and will grieve lost relationships.

**What age, sex, and personality would be appropriate for me?**

As with any species, every pig is an individual, each with their own personality and quirks. But generally speaking, pigs are extremely intelligent, very emotional, curious, change-resistant, and definitely know what they want! Their intelligence and curiosity can make them very trainable, whether it's potty training, harness training, or learning tricks. It can also mean they find all kinds of creative ways of getting into trouble and keeping you on your toes (including escaping enclosures, opening kitchen cabinets and refrigerators, or collecting and shredding laundry to make the perfect nest). Their emotional sensitivity means they can smell people's emotions, get their feelings hurt easily, and are generally rather dramatic! Since change tends to be hard for them, it's important to be patient when they go through a transition such as a move to a new home.

It's equally important to set clear, firm boundaries with your pig, as "spoiled pig syndrome" is a common cause of angst, and leads to far too many rehomings. Pigs don't generally feel an innate need to please their humans the way a dog might, so when you want them to do something, you need to convince them that it was their idea! The porcine social structure is very hierarchical, and a dominant pig will test humans and other animals in the home to find their position in the herd. They tend to be stubborn (hence the term "pig-headed"), and can sometimes use their smarts to manipulate people to get what they want.

But these complex personalities are part of the appeal for pig people; getting to know a pig's ins and outs and developing a deep bond with them can form an incredibly rewarding relationship. We encourage meeting a wide range of pigs before making a decision to ensure that you find the right pig for your situation (or to determine if a different species would be a better fit).

One key question for potential adopters is whether to look for a piglet or an adult. There are pros and cons to both, and much of it comes down to the specific situation and personal preference, but there are several factors to consider. Piglets are adorable, for sure, and allow the family the opportunity to raise the pig from a young age, shaping the baby (to some degree) into the adult pig they want. However, raising a good pig citizen is a big responsibility. Piglets need lots of attention and socialization, frequent bathroom breaks, kind but firm training, and another pig to help them become well-adjusted. A piglet also comes with many unknowns, as their innate traits such as dominance or intelligence may not yet be apparent.

An adult pig, on the other hand, may be more of a known entity, especially if they have been in their home for a long time. Their people can share details of their history, likes and dislikes, and idiosyncrasies. They are also past their rebellious "teenage" phase, and may be more independent. Older pigs may be more set in their ways, though, and the transition to a new home can be tougher on them.

Applicants often ask whether they should adopt a male or female pig. First of all, it is essential that all companion pigs be spayed or neutered to eliminate hormones from the equation. Once those hormones are gone, it mostly comes down to individual personality. Males will need occasional tusk trims, whereas females typically don't. If you need to get your new pig altered, spaying a female is generally a more involved and expensive surgery than neutering a male. Anecdotally, neutered males may tend towards being laid-back, submissive, and/or timid, while spayed females may be more confident, bossy, and/or dominant. There are many exceptions to these trends, though, so it's best to meet the pig in question and get to know them as an individual.

**Do I have young kids, or am I getting the pig as a pet for an older child?**

While pigs and calm children can get along just fine, chaotic homes or families with rambunctious kids or those who don't respect a pig's boundaries are not a good fit. If a pig is scared or annoyed by the children, overstimulated, or unable to retreat to a quiet space, they can become nippy or act out in other ways.

A dominant pig may try to assert authority over children in the home or become territorial. It's important to teach the pig to respect all humans and to teach the kids to read a pig's body language and honor their needs and limits. Even in a peaceful home, pigs and young children should always be supervised together. Pigs have an excellent sense of smell and are very food motivated, but don't have the best vision, so be particularly mindful of sticky fingers or kids who smell like snacks to avoid accidents!

If you are considering getting a pig as a pet for your child, remember that pigs can live for 20 years. What happens when your child grows up and leaves home? What if they lose interest in the pig? You, the adult, are ultimately responsible for your pet, so plan to have the pig under your care for the long run.

**Do I have dogs or other animals? Can I adopt a second pig for companionship?**

Pigs are highly social animals who naturally live in herds. The companionship of one or more other pigs hugely benefits a pig's well-being, and those living alone often become depressed or exhibit behavior issues. Piglets and outdoor pigs in particular need a friend for company, safety, and social skills. A piglet would never be left alone in the wild, so they can feel very vulnerable and anxious without a buddy to rely on.

Despite their social nature, pigs are also extremely hierarchical, and when a new pig appears, they will fight to establish their positions in the herd. Introducing two pigs takes time, patience, and thoughtfulness, and should be done with guidance from an experienced pig person.

However, it will be worth it when the pigs have a better quality of life with companionship of their own species. Learn more about pig introductions here.

"What if I have other companion animals?" you many ask. "Can't the pig be friends with my dog/cat/goat/etc?" While there are plenty of homes with both pigs and dogs, this can be a very risky combination. No matter how sweet and gentle the dog may be, they are predators and pigs are prey animals. Pigs do not play like dogs do. They have different social interactions. They do not speak the same language, which can lead to misunderstandings. A misunderstanding, conflict over food, jealousy or territorial behavior, annoyance, defensiveness, and any number of other triggers can lead to a tragic outcome. Pigs rarely win a fight with a dog, and many do not survive. The dog can also sustain serious injuries. For this reason, it's imperative to introduce pigs and dogs slowly and cautiously, and then continue to closely supervise all interactions, with the ability to separate them when you are not present (or separate them fully if they do not get along).

As far as other species go, interactions can be mixed. Pigs tend to get along well with cats and chickens. Some horses hate pigs and will try to stomp or bite them. Sheep and goats may or may not be compatible, depending on the individuals involved. If you intend for your pig to cohabitate with other species, make sure you have a backup plan in case it doesn't go as you hoped. And always make sure that your pig can't access other animals' food!

A pig's human family also provides social interaction, of course, and there are plenty of single pigs who live happy lives. But if you have the ability to adopt two pigs (ideally a bonded pair so you don't have to go through the introduction process), it is well worth doing. It may seem that two pigs would be twice as much work as one, but the opposite is often true due to the benefits to both pigs' mental health.

**Do I own my home? Do I have plans to move in the future? Am I zoned for pet pigs?**

It's important that you are in a stable, long-term living situation that is appropriate for a pig before you decide to adopt. Apartments are generally not suitable for pigs, especially if they lack first floor access. Stairs are dangerous for them, and they all need plenty of outside time. Pigs who are unable to go outside will become bored, leading to destructiveness and other behavior and health problems. RV living is also generally a bad fit for pigs.

It is our policy that adopters must own their home. This is to ensure that the pig won't need to be rehomed in the future if the landlord changes their mind about allowing a pig in their rental or if the rental ownership changes hands. It can be hard to find housing where pigs are allowed, so if you expect to move, hold off on adopting until you are settled for the long term.

Whether moving to a new location or determining whether your current home is appropriate for pigs, it is vital to check your zoning to be sure that they are allowed. Just because you live in a rural area, your neighbor has chickens, or you know someone across town who has a pig doesn't necessarily mean that you are legally zoned to have them on your property. Find out if there are any restrictions (weight, number, property size, etc.) and get the ordinance in writing. Having a pig in violation of zoning ordinances means that the pig may be seized by animal control and you have no recourse. This is not a risk worth taking. Similarly, if you live in a community with a homeowners' association, get written confirmation that your HOA allows companion pigs before deciding to adopt one. If needed, there are ways to pursue getting your zoning ordinance or HOA rules changed; learn more about the process here and find additional resources here.

**Do I have access to a pig-savvy veterinarian and the financial resources to cover unexpected vet bills?**

Finding a vet who is willing to see companion pigs--and has sufficient expertise--is essential, but not always easy. Not all large animal vets will see pet pigs, even if they care for farm pigs, though some exotics vets have pig patients. Be sure to call the vet you are considering to determine whether you're comfortable trusting them with your pig's care. You'll need a knowledgeable vet to cover routine care, spay or neuter if needed, and emergency services.

Companion pigs' routine care--including exams, hoof and tusk trims (which can also be done by a farrier or other pig expert), vaccines, and deworming--is generally pretty inexpensive. Bills from an emergency can add up quickly, however, so it's important to have access to funds to cover emergencies that may arise. The cost of spaying or neutering can vary widely, so before adopting an intact pig, check with your vet to be sure you can afford the surgery. Spaying and neutering are not optional, but rather essential to your pig's health and good behavior (as well as preventing unwanted piglets). You'll also need to have a way to safely transport your pig to the vet when needed; transporting them in a crate inside of an SUV or other enclosed, climate controlled vehicle is the safest approach.

**How do I intend to house my pig?**

Pigs can live happy lives either indoors or outdoors, though even house pigs need plenty of outside time for exercise, grazing, and stimulation. Despite stereotypes, pigs are clean animals with minimal odor (although many do enjoy a mud bath, and they aren't the tidiest eaters!). They can be readily housetrained, and will avoid going to the bathroom where they sleep and eat. Rooting is a natural behavior, though the level of enthusiasm varies from individual to individual. If you have a manicured lawn or prize flower garden, it may be wise to set up an enclosure that limits the pig to a "sacrifice zone" where they can root to their heart's content! Indoor rooting boxes are also a popular form of enrichment.

Indoor housing options can include a room of the pig's own, such as a laundry room or spare bedroom; a securely fenced corner of a living room; or a large crate tucked in a quiet spot. Regardless of the location of their bed, they'll want lots of blankets to burrow in. It's important for your pig to have somewhere out of the flow of traffic where they can retreat and where you can close them in if needed. While some people choose to set up a pig-specific litter box, most pigs prefer to go to the bathroom outside. This outside time also provides stimulation that is essential for a happy and well-behaved pig. You'll want to thoroughly pig-proof your home before bringing your new buddy home; they will likely test and exploit any weak spot they can find!

Outside pigs need a secure enclosure (as large as possible, but we recommend 16x16' at the minimum) and a cozy shelter to protect them from the elements. Depending on the climate and situation, this shelter can range from a dog house to a barn stall to a shed to a garage. They will need a warm bed of clean, dry straw or blankets. Make sure they have shade and a kiddie pool or mud wallow for the warmer months, as pigs don't sweat and can overheat or sunburn easily. While all pigs can benefit from a friend, outdoor pigs can become particularly lonely, so we recommend adopting a pair for an outside setting.

Do I have a support system for help when I need it? Who will watch my pig when I go away? Have I made a plan if something were to happen to me?

You are responsible for your pig throughout their life, so consider how they will receive the care they need when you cannot do it yourself. When you go on vacation, do you have a trusted pet sitter who is comfortable with pigs? Ideally, this should be someone your pig knows already. If not, make sure they have an opportunity to meet a few times in advance so your pig doesn't feel threatened by a stranger coming into the house. Boarding at a facility can be an option; however, it can be difficult to find pig-specific boarding facilities in most parts of the country. Boarding at a vet or a dog kennel is very stressful for a pig, and is not recommended. Taking your pig with you on a trip may be an option, but many dislike travel. If you want to explore this possibility, plan well in advance to practice acclimating them to the car, beginning with short trips to see how they fare. Also plan ahead to find pig-friendly lodging if needed (not always easy to do), identify vets along the way in case of emergency, and check for any needed paperwork for crossing state lines or zoning concerns at your destination.

While it's not something we like thinking about, it's wise to consider your companion's future if something were to happen to you. While you are required to give your pig back to the rescue he/she was adopted from it would be best if your pig could be readily adopted by someone he/she knows. If you know someone who might be willing and able to care for your pig for the short or long term, have a conversation with them and make a plan if possible. You may want to add wording to your will that ensures that your pig will be cared for.

Even when you are available, pigs aren't always easy to handle, so you will likely need another set of hands at some point: to help lift a carrier into a vehicle, monitor a pig introduction, or restrain your pig for healthcare. Do you have strong, capable, and willing family members, neighbors, or friends who can show up in an emergency? If you don't have an SUV or van, can you borrow one from a friend to transport your pig when needed? (Securely closing them in a sturdy crate inside your vehicle is the safest way to travel.) Having access to other pig resources for support and guidance is priceless. You can always contact Noah’s ARC or SueEs Legacy with questions. Your vet can also be a valuable resource. And there are many local pig parenting groups on social media and elsewhere that can be great for networking (just remember to fact check any information you find on social media, as it may not all be true or applicable to your situation!).

Adoption Contract:

* Adopter will provide the pig with a secure outdoor area, even if allowed inside the house.
* If the home has a dog, the adopter must agree to keep the pig(s) and dog(s) separated at all times unless supervised.
* The adopter must be allowed to have a pig at their residence. We may require proof for any or all jurisdictions prior to finalizing adoption
* ·Adoption Fees vary and are due at or before time of adoption. ​
* If for any reason, at any time, adopter is unable to keep pig he/she will be returned to Noah’s ARC or Sue’Es Legacy rescue immediately.
* Pigs are required to have their hooves and tusks (if male) trimmed every 6-9 mos by SueEs Legacy (if within 50 miles) at a discounted rate

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Sign Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Print

We are committed to finding safe, loving homes for our homeless potbellied pigs, but we are also cautious and want the new owner to make an informed decision. For the right people, they make wonderful companion animals but for others they are not appropriate, so please be sure and do your homework first. To help us determine your qualifications and match the right pig to your home, please fill out this application as completely and honestly as possible. It will require some time and thought on your part, but it will help us match each precious pig with the perfect home, as well as give you better insight on what it takes to prepare the perfect home.

**Personal Information**

Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Last Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_City \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ZIP\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Are you over 21 years of age? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

If no, please have parent/guardian complete and sign the Application.

Do you have a medical condition that would limit your ability to care for the pig? \_\_Yes \_\_No

**Property Information**

DESCRIBE YOUR HOME AND YARD

Does your local zoning allow pet pigs? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

Many communities do not if it is against their zoning ordinances. Please check before you continue.

Do you live in a: House \_\_\_\_\_ Apartment \_\_\_ Condo \_\_\_\_\_Mobile Home\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Other

Do you: \_\_\_ Own \_\_\_\_\_\_ Rent

Do you live in a planned community? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No

If you live in a planned community, you will need written permission from your homeowner's association to have a pig

Do you have a fenced-in yard? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No

Will your pig have his/her own pen or fenced area? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Do you have an in ground swimming pool or fish pond? \_\_\_\_\_Yes\_\_\_\_\_No

Do you have bird feeders in your yard? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_No

Will the pig be required to use stairs to get in & out of your home? \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No

Household Information

Number of adults living in your home: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Number of children in your home and their ages: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do all members in your household want this pet? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No

Do you currently have a pig? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No

If so, is this pig neutered/spayed? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever previously had a pig? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No

If so, what happened to him/her?

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What other pets do you currently have? Please give breeds of your dog(s)

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Who will be responsible for caring for the pig? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_­\_

**PIG SPECIFICS**

Age preference: \_\_\_Baby (under 1 year) \_\_\_ Younger (between 1-4) \_\_\_Older (4+) \_\_\_Doesn’t matter

Sex preference: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Does not matter

Color preference:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Black \_\_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Does not matter

Where will the pigs live? \_\_\_\_ Indoors \_\_\_\_\_ Outdoors

Are you willing to adopt two pigs who are buddies? Pigs are by nature herd animals and really enjoy

the company of another pig to snuggle with, especially if they are outdoor pigs. \_\_\_\_Yes No

Are you willing to take an un-socialized pig? (one who has had little to no human contact)?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No

Are you willing to take a special needs pet (one who is obese and needs dieting, one who has behavior

problems and needs to be worked with, one who has health problems, etc.)? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No

IF INDOORS:

Indoor pigs are pigs that live primarily inside your home with daily outside yard privileges.

Is your home pig-proofed? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Need more info

Where will the pig sleep? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How many hours will the pig be alone each day?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Is there a safe place for your pig to stay during the day? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No

Is there a safe place for the pig to spend his outside time? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_Yes\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No

IF OUTDOORS:

Outdoor pigs live primarily outside in a barn or special shelter with yard &/or pasture privileges.

Do you have a well-insulated house for the pig? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No

Do you have a way to heat this house in cold weather? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No

Is there access to a wading pool or mud hole in summer? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Yes\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No

Is there a spot available with all-day shade? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_No

Describe the living conditions you will provide.

Please be very specific about the size of the pasture:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Vet Information**

Vet Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_

Are your current pets neutered? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

Are your current pets up-to-date on their vaccinations? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

DOES YOUR CURRENT VET CARE FOR PBPS? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

If not, what is the name & phone number of a vet that does care for pet pigs that you will be using? Vet Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

It is very important to find a vet who will treat the pig before actually getting one. A potbellied pig has different

medical needs than your typical companion animal or even a farm pig. These vets are few and far between and could mean the difference between life and death in an emergency.

**Pig Education**

I understand that the average weight of a full-grown potbellied pig is 75-150 pounds, some smaller and some larger,

and that genetics determines size. Underfeeding the pig will not change his skeletal size and will only lead to health

and/or behavioral problems. Over-feeding the pig or not feeding him food specific to his species will also lead to

health and/or behavioral problems.

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Need more information.

I understand that rooting is a basic natural instinct and that ALL pigs will root to varying degrees. This can lead to

destructiveness in the house when they are bored and do not have other outlets or if they do not get enough outside

time. It can also lead to destructiveness of lawn and flowerbeds.

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Need more information

I understand that dogs and pigs must be carefully monitored and should NEVER be left unsupervised together,

even the most gentle dog and even if the pig and dog are best of friends. They are both animals with animal

instincts. Dogs are predators and pigs are prey, and a dog can kill a pig if provoked.

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Need more information

I understand that a pig can become territorial. This can include growling, snapping, charging, or even biting to

varying degrees. It is most common in house pigs but can also occur outside. In the wild, pigs are herd animals,

and it is a natural instinct for them to try to test their dominance and become "top hog". Behavioral modification

techniques can help. Because of this instinct, children and pigs must always be carefully supervised.

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Need more information

I understand that a pig should not be placed in a home until he is at least 8-12 weeks of age, properly weaned, and

eating on his own. Earlier placement can lead to starvation and/or aggressive behavior.

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Need more information

I understand that spaying/neutering of all pigs is ESSENTIAL, not only for reproduction purposes but also for

behavioral and health reasons as well. An unaltered pig does not make a good house pet. An unaltered pig may

also develop reproductive organ disease when older and larger and no longer a safe surgical candidate.

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_\_ Need more information

I understand that it will most likely be difficult to find a competent vet who will care for my pig. I also understand

that I must have a plan set up in advance to get my pig to the vet in an emergency situation. This plan should include

an adequate vehicle and adequate muscle if the pig is no longer mobile.

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Need more information

In the case that this pig is to be a companion for a current pig, I understand there will be an "introduction" period

between the two, whereby they work it out between themselves who will be "top hog".

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_\_ Need more information \_\_\_\_\_\_ Not applicable

I understand that this animal is a pig, and as such, I will allow him to be a pig. I understand that he has specific

needs basic to his nature, and I will strive to meet those needs and appreciate the very qualities that make him such a

unique and delightful creature.

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_\_ Need more information

**HYPOTHETICAL QUESTIONS**

What steps would you take to find a lost pet?

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What will you do with your pet when you go on vacation?

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What would you do if you’re pet became ill and needed expensive veterinary care? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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What would you do if you became ill and could no longer care for your pet? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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What are your views on euthanasia and your animals?

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**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Please supply us with the name, phone number and e-mail of two references:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Can someone come out and check your home to be sure it is safe (properly

pig-proofed, adequate shelter, supplies on hand for pig's arrival, etc.)? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ No

How far would you be willing to travel to pick up your pig? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

In what way have you educated yourself on the proper care of a pig? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Are you committed to care for the pig for his/her life. (it is estimated the lifespan of a potbellied pig can be up to 20 years)? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Do you have any questions/concerns about caring for a pig? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Most importantly, why do you want a pig as a pet? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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I hereby certify that the information I have provided above is true, correct, and complete to the best of my

knowledge, and you may rely on this information to evaluate my application. I also understand that I will be asked to provide a donation fee ($50 to $300, depending on the cost of the spay/neuter and other vet expenses)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature

Return to:

Jessica@noahsanimalrescuecenter.org