

## **CRITERIA FOR THE NOC OF AN ABC TRAINING FACILITY**

To apply for registration as an AWBI-accredited Training Center for ABC Programs, the institution / organization should meet the following requirements:

### **A. Experience**

1. The applicant should be working in the field of Animal Welfare, in particular, with activities in ABC-ARV programs for stray dogs in India.
2. The applicant should be an organization registered with the AWBI. The exception to this is an ABC Training unit set up by a veterinary university recognized by the Veterinary Council of India.
3. The applicant should have comprehensive knowledge and experience in the field of ABC Programs, as per the ABC Implementation Module published by the AWBI. This includes technical expertise in dog population surveys, ABC Program set-up, operating protocols and methodologies, program management, effective monitoring and impact assessment system.
4. The applicant should have no less than 5 years' experience in conducting ABC programs, or minimum experience of 25,000 ABC surgeries carried out in the last 5 years.
5. The applicant ideally should be employing updated equipment and technologies in running the ABC program, such as a GPS-based tracking system to monitor the daily capture and return of the dogs and the overall geographic coverage of the ABC program.

### **B. Infrastructure and Resources**

1. The applicant should have a comprehensive ABC program infrastructure, as per the ABC Implementation Module published by the AWBI, which is suitable for training.
  - a. The Clinic component should include the following:
    - i. Operating Theatre with capacity to accommodate a minimum of 4 surgery tables,
    - ii. Pre-operation preparation area
    - iii. Room/area for cleaning and sterilizing instruments,
    - iv. Storage room for medicines and equipment,
    - v. 24-hr water and electricity supply.
  - b. The Kennels component should have capacity to house a minimum of 100 dogs.
    - i. There should be adequate ventilation, temperature control, lighting, and water source points.
    - ii. The design of the kennels should facilitate cleaning, hygiene and disease control, with smooth, non-porous floors and walls, and sloped floors to proper drainage.
    - iii. There should be a kitchen and washroom area nearby the kennels area for preparation of dog food and cleaning of kitchen utensil and dog bowls.
    - iv. There should be accommodation facility for 24-hr veterinary and paraveterinary staff.
  - c. The training center should have an equipped classroom facility for workshops and theoretical training sessions.

2. The applicant should have experienced training staff for all components of the ABC program, including veterinary surgery, paravets for clinic support, animal handlers for humane dog-catching and handling, and paraveterinary staff for post-operative care and treatment. The Organisation running the ABC Training Facility shall ensure that the Trainers include one veterinary Surgeon who has successfully performed at least 10,000 ABC surgeries. The applicant should have extensive experience in carrying out ABC-specific, technical training for Veterinary Surgeons, including animal birth control surgeries and post-operative care procedures.

a. A minimum staff of 8 training staff, including 2 veterinary surgeons, 2 paravets, 2 handlers and 2 kennel staff, must be on the organization's payroll at the time of application.

b. The lead trainer must have an MVSc in Surgery from a veterinary university. The NOC shall be applicable only for the approved facility. For each new Training Facility, a new application for NOC shall have to be made.

The NOC shall only be granted after a detailed inspection of the ABC Training Facility by a team authorised by AWBI.

Every ABC Training Facility to which an NOC is granted by AWBI shall submit an annual report for every calendar year, in a format prescribed by the Board, failing which the NOC shall be deemed to have been withdrawn.

If facility is found to employ vets who are not surgeons and have not been trained by a recognised training facility, the unit shall be closed immediately and all MOUs cancelled.

## **CRITERIA FOR REGISTRATION OF AN ANIMAL BIRTH CONTROL IMPLEMENTATION AGENCY**

To apply for Registration as an AWBI-accredited ABC Agency the institution / AWO should meet the following requirements:

### **A. Experience**

1. The applicant should be working in the field of Animal Welfare, in particular, with activities in ABC-ARV programs for stray dogs .
2. Even when the ABC campus/facility has been created by the State Government/Local Authority, the implementing agency (AWO) must be registered with the AWBI.
3. The applicant organization should have trained veterinarians with no less than 2 years' experience in conducting ABC programs along with trained para-veterinary staff.
4. The Center should have a master plan to conduct ABC surgeries for 70% dog population within 2 breeding cycles in a clearly defined area. The infrastructure and staff should be commensurate with the masterplan. The masterplan shall have defined milestones and shall be approved by the ABC Monitoring Committee constituted under the Rules.

5. The applicant should submit the organization's audited financial reports for the previous 3 years

6. A separate registration shall be provided to the implementing agency for every separate facility, even if such separate facilities are being managed by the same implementing agency.

7. A provisional registration for 4 months shall be provided after a detailed inspection of any new proposed ABC facility. The inspection shall be carried out by a team authorised by the Board.

8. The Implementing agency can hire and train staff within 4 months and apply for permanent registration for such facility by sending proof of employment and proof of qualification of all staff members along with VCI registration certificates and Training certificates of the Veterinarians, to the Board.

## **B. Infrastructure and Resources**

1. The Center should have comprehensive ABC program infrastructure as has been described in the Module for Implementation of ABC published by the AWBI.

a. The Clinic area should include the following:

- i. Operating Theatre (fully equipped)
- ii. Pre-operation preparation area,
- iii. Room/area for cleaning and sterilizing instruments,
- iv. Storage room for medicines and equipment,
- v. 24-hr water and electricity supply.

b. The Kennels area should have capacity to house a minimum of 50 dogs or as per masterplan. There should be a separate kennel provision for dogs that have been brought in pregnant, wounded, sick or suspected of a communicable disease like rabies.

- i. There should be adequate ventilation, temperature control, lighting and water source points.
- ii. There should not be any sharp edges or protrusions in the kennels area, both inside and outside the kennels.
- iii. The design of the kennels should facilitate cleaning, hygiene and disease control, with smooth, non-porous floors and walls, and sloped floors to proper drainage.
- iv. Every kennel should have identification of the dog(s) displayed inside the kennel.
- v. There should be a kitchen and washroom area nearby the kennels area for preparation of dog food and cleaning of kitchen utensil and dog bowls.
- vi. There should be suitable staff accommodation facility for 24-hour supervision by veterinary / para-veterinary staff of ABC programme.

2. The agency should have a complete ABC team including minimum 1 full-time veterinary surgeon, 2 para-vets and 3 animal handlers and catchers or as per masterplan. A para-vet staff member should be on site 24 hours to ensure post-operative care.

3. The agency should have vehicle(s) for transport of the dogs. The vehicle design should have good ventilation, non-slip floor, smooth and easy-to-clean surfaces, and adequate capacity to accommodate the required number of dogs.

4. The agency should ideally employ a GPS-based tracking system to monitor the daily capture and return of the dogs and the overall geographic coverage of the ABC program.

5. The agency should maintain complete and transparent records as mandated in the Module for Implementation of ABC published by the AWBI.

### **C. Veterinary and Animal Welfare Standards**

1. The agency should abide by the protocols set out in the Module for Implementation of ABC published by the AWBI.

2. The agency should undergo an independent ABC Veterinary and Welfare Standard Audit, commissioned by AWBI periodically and achieve an overall score of Excellence