



*Many have forgotten this truth, but you must not forget it.
You remain responsible, forever, for what you have tamed.*

— Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

The Gabriel Foundation® is a 501(c)(3) avicultural and veterinary affiliated parrot welfare organization licensed by the state of Colorado, promoting educational outreach, conservation, rescue, rehabilitation, adoption, and sanctuary pertaining to the needs of parrots everywhere.

The Gabriel Foundation Adoption Committee
1025 Acoma Street, Denver, CO 80204 Telephone: 303.629.5900 x 213 Fax: 303.646-1351
Toll-free: 877.923.1009
www.thegabrielfoundation.org Email: adoptions@thegabrielfoundation.org
CONFIDENTIAL ADOPTION APPLICATION (12 pages)

Thank you for expressing interest in adopting a bird from the Foundation. This is a serious commitment for you, your family and for the Foundation. We hope that this relationship will endure for many years into the future. When adopting a bird from the Foundation, please understand you are accepting the honor of continuing to provide for a bird truly in need of a nurturing, caring and committed environment. You become an integral part of the Foundation and its goal to provide and promote an educated awareness of living successfully with a companion parrot. Our adoption procedure is designed to be in the bird's best interest, and we appreciate your patience with this process. Our relationship with you is important to us, and we depend upon your support now, as well as in the future to improve the lives of all parrots. Your participation in ongoing data collection regarding your companion parrot(s) will be invaluable to our efforts and help us to supply much needed reference material to the pet and veterinary industry at large.

THE GABRIEL FOUNDATION ("The Foundation") is classified as a publicly-supported, tax-exempt charitable organization described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation, and health of exotic birds through education, research, conservation and service. Our parrots come from many sources: owners no longer able to care for their companion birds, pet stores, breeders, humane organizations and veterinarians. We arrange for the adoption of many of these companion birds that we believe will thrive in a home situation. In addition, we provide refuge for many parrots that, due to age, disability, abuse and neglect, or the need for continual medical care cannot be placed outside our facility. All birds entering our facility receive an extensive medical work-up to help determine the best possible placement for each bird and to protect the existing resident Foundation flock.

Taking care of an exotic bird is a serious responsibility. The Foundation insists that each person who adopts a bird understands these responsibilities and can fulfill them. More than with most pets, it is true that not everyone who wishes to live with an exotic bird is able to provide for that bird's well being. Because of this, we do not adopt birds to children. All adoption requests must be made by an adult that is 21 years of age or older. We want children to learn how to relate to all animals, but we do not encourage the sole responsibility of the care of a bird as a child's teaching tool.

The following application has been designed to aid both you and The Foundation in determining whether you and your family can provide a suitable environment for parrots in accordance with our protocol. Please answer all questions and explain any answers or add comments. If a question does not apply, please write "N/A." Please type or print clearly. You can download a copy of this form from The Foundation's website at www.thegabrielfoundation.org/application if you wish to complete the form using a word processing program.

We appreciate your interest in adopting a parrot from The Gabriel Foundation, and for taking the time to complete this application. All applications will be carefully reviewed and our Adoption Coordinator will contact you shortly.



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For office use only:

Applicant Name _____
Date Received _____ (Initial)
Date Adoption Approved _____ (Initial)

Please complete this application and return to The Gabriel Foundation Director of Adoptions. Thank you for taking the time to answer all of these very important questions.

Date: _____ Name _____ Date of Birth _____
Social Security Number (optional): _____

Spouse/Significant other/Roommate _____
Children (number and ages) _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Phone: Home: _____ Work: _____
Fax: _____ Email: _____
Occupation/Self _____
Spouse/Significant Other _____

1. How did you learn about The Gabriel Foundation?

2. Why do you want to adopt a parrot?

3. Do all adults in your household know that you are applying to adopt a bird? No ___ Yes ___

4. Do any of the members of your household object to adopting a bird? No ___ Yes ___

If yes, please explain: _____

Do any household members have health or mobility issues that will limit their ability to interact with or care for a parrot? YES NO

Explain: _____

5. Are you interested in giving this bird as a gift? No___ Yes___
If yes, please explain:

6. Is it important that the bird like and interact with all family members equally?
No___ Yes___ Please explain:

7. Who will be primarily responsible for the bird's care? _____
8. If applicable, will your children be included in the bird's care? No ___ Yes ___
If yes, how? _____
9. What is the responsible person's and/or family's schedule?
Weekdays _____
Weekday evenings _____
Weekends _____
10. How many hours during the day will the bird be left alone? _____
Please provide us with a description of a typical day in household: _____

11. Does the responsible person/family travel? No___ Yes___ When he or she is away,
either for business or on vacation, who will care for the bird? _____

12. Type of dwelling: House _____ Condo _____ Apartment _____ Other _____
13. Do you rent ___ own ___?
14. If you rent, do you have your landlord's consent to have a bird?
No___ Yes _____
May we contact your landlord? No _____ Yes _____
If no, please explain why: _____

Landlord's Name: _____ Phone: _____
15. Does anyone in your household smoke? No ___ Yes ___
Where? _____
16. Please check to which of these magazines you subscribe:
The Companion Parrot Quarterly___ Bird Talk___ Bird Times___ PsittaScene___
Good Bird Magazine _____
Others _____
17. Do you subscribe to or read any other bird-related publications? _____
If so, which ones? Do you have a favorite reference book(s)? _____

18. What species of bird(s) are you primarily interested in and why? _____

19. What do you expect from a pet parrot? _____

20. What 5 characteristics of a parrot are most important to you and why? _____

21. Please list 10 characteristics and qualities that best describe **your** personality?

22. Are you aware that exotic birds might have or develop bad habits (destruction of clothing, furniture, drapery or anything within reach; biting; screaming; dislike of strangers or your mate; leaving droppings everywhere), and that these habits can be difficult to break?
No___ Yes ___

23. If the bird develops a bad habit, what will you do?

24. Are you aware that exotic birds require a great deal of attention and maintenance, and that they can be expensive to be kept fed, healthy, housed and entertained? No___ Yes ___

25. What do you think a pet parrot will cost you per year?

Why? _____

26. Under what circumstances would you not want to keep the bird?
Moving ___ Divorce/separation ___ New baby ___ New job ___ Allergy ___
Does not get along with other pets ___ New relationship ___ Serious illness ___
Prefers one person over another ___ Biting or screaming behaviors ___
Bird makes too much noise ___ Cannot spend enough time with bird ___
Does not "talk" ___ Neighbors complain of noise ___
Other _____

Do you or your partner plan to make any significant changes in employment or occupation in the future? YES NO If so, please explain: _____

If you don't have children now, do you plan to have them in the future? YES NO
If you do plan to have children, how do you expect this to affect the relationship with your parrot? _____

Describe the lifestyle changes you might anticipate over the next 5, 10 and 25 years: _____

27. What do you feed an exotic bird? _____

28. What other equipment will your pet parrot will need? _____

29. In what part of your house will the bird spend the majority of its “awake” time?

30. Where will the bird sleep? _____
31. What other areas and play stations will be available for the bird?
Indoor: _____
Outdoor: _____
32. Do you have any prior experience in keeping exotic birds? No ____ Yes ____
If yes, and you do not have a bird at this time, please indicate us what happened to the
bird: _____

33. Do you share your home with any exotic birds now? No ____ Yes ____
If yes, using a separate sheet of paper, please list what species. Include the following
information for each bird in your home:
- The year that bird came into your home;
 - Age of your bird(s) was when you got it. If you do not know the age of your bird when you
got it, indicate “u” unknown;
 - Where obtained (pet store, breeder, friend, found, shelter/parrot adoption org, etc);
 - Specify “D” for domestic bred, and “WC” for wild caught.
34. Are you aware that exotic birds may carry diseases that can infect humans? Yes ____ No ____
35. If you share your home with any exotic birds now, have your birds been checked for infectious
diseases? No ____ Yes ____ When? _____ Have any of your birds ever tested
positive for a communicable disease? No ____ Yes ____
36. If yes, which disease and how was it treated? _____

37. Were your birds retested after treatment? No ____ Yes ____ What was the Outcome?

38. How often do you take your bird(s) to your veterinarian for a “well-bird” check up?

39. Is laboratory testing included in this check up? No ____ Yes ____
If no, why not? _____

If you have other birds in your home, THE FOUNDATION'S Medical Director, H. Noel Opitz, DVM requires the following avian medical screening, performed by a veterinarian with a special interest in avian medicine. THE FOUNDATION must ensure that adopted birds have a healthy future.

1. Please provide the Foundation with a letter, medical summary or copies of bird's veterinary records from your current or past veterinarian that all birds in home have been examined within the last fiscal year demonstrating that these birds have no signs of infectious or contagious disease and the birds have been given regular and appropriate medical care.
2. The above information should include information that all psittacine bird(s) in the home have been tested negative for Chlamydia (Psittacosis), indicating the date and type of test and possible exposure since testing was performed.
3. The Foundation also requires results of the most current Complete Blood Count and fecal Gram stain or results from within the last fiscal year.
4. If relevant, please include documentation that all "Old World" (Australia/Africa/Asia) birds in the house have been tested negative for Pbfd (Psittacine Beak and Feather Disease).
5. The Gabriel Foundation may also require additional testing determined on an individual basis by our Medical Director and attending veterinarians.

We have taken great care with our avian residents at The Gabriel Foundation to provide them with comprehensive veterinary care. It is important to us that you and your birds have a good working relationship with your avian veterinarian. By nature, parrots mask their illnesses. Although medical testing is not always 100% accurate, indicators of sub clinical health problems may appear in test results prior to becoming an acute or chronic disease problem in your bird. We want the future life and health of both yours and our birds to be the very best that it can be and appreciate your support of this important protocol.

THE FOUNDATION suggests that you discuss with your avian veterinarian (or a veterinarian with a special interest in avian medicine) what specialty groups he/she is currently a member of (such as the Association of Avian Veterinarians), how long he/she has been practicing avian medicine, what percentage of his/her practice is avian-related, how many birds on average per week are seen in the practice and whether he/she is board certified?

Do you know an **avian** veterinarian? No ___ Yes ___

If "yes", please list doctor's and hospital name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

May we contact him/her as a reference? No ___ Yes ___

40. If you do not know an avian veterinarian, how do you plan to find one in your community?

41. What other pets are currently kept in your household?

42. For each non-avian pet that you have had in the past 10 years, please list species or breed, year acquired, how long you kept them and how the relationship ended. (Please be complete, and continue on the back if necessary).

43. Have you considered what will happen to your pets should you no longer be able to care for them? Please explain.

44. Have you considered the life span of your adopted bird and how you will plan for its needs when you are no longer physically able to do so?

45. Will you provide The Gabriel Foundation a copy of your directive upon the completion of the Permanent Adoption paperwork?

No _____ Yes _____

Please be advised that **THE GABRIEL FOUNDATION** cannot guarantee the health of any bird. When a bird comes to us, it has often had a series of owners and an undocumented history. We try to provide the most accurate and thorough medical work-ups possible, as well as any background information that we have. Please review the medical records of your to-be-adopted bird with your avian veterinarian, or schedule a consultation appointment with The Foundation's Medical Director, H. Noel Opitz, DVM at The Gabriel Foundation Aviary and Adoption Center in Elizabeth at 303-629-5900 x 218 or with one of the members of our Veterinary Support Network. Contact us for details.

It is important to read thoroughly the terms of the Probationary and the Permanent Adoption agreements. Please be aware that if you decide that you are no longer able to provide for your Foundation adopted bird, then that bird MUST be returned to the Foundation per the terms of the Probationary and Permanent Adoption agreements. You will also be asked to provide the Foundation appropriate information regarding the care of your bird in the event that you are no longer able to provide for its care and well-being. It is critical to the Foundation that your directives consider the long-term care and well being of any bird adopted through The Gabriel Foundation in accordance with the terms of the Permanent Adoption Agreement™. I have read and agree to these adoption terms_____ (initials)

By signing this Confidential Bird Adoption Application, you agree to be bound by the

Probationary Period in The Gabriel Foundation Probationary Bird Adoption Agreement. Specifically, during the three-month Probationary Period, The Gabriel Foundation has the right to make inspections at any reasonable time after 24 hours notice to determine whether you are complying with your obligations under the Agreement and whether you are maintaining the health and safety of the bird. The Foundation reserves the right to remove the bird at any time if it determines, in its sole opinion and discretion, that you are not complying with your obligations under the Agreement or you are not maintaining the health and safety of the bird. I have read and agree to these adoption terms _____ (initials)

Please review this brief summary of our adoption protocol to answer any additional questions about the adoption process:

Parrot Adoption Protocol

Thank you for expressing interest in adopting a bird from the Foundation. This is a serious commitment for you, your family and for the Foundation. We hope that this relationship will endure for many years into the future. When adopting a bird from the Foundation, we believe that you are accepting the honor of continuing to provide for a bird truly in need of a nurturing, caring and committed environment. You become an integral part of the Foundation and its goal to provide and promote an educated awareness about the many needs of living successfully with a companion parrot. Our adoption procedure is designed to be in the bird's best interest, and we appreciate your patience with this process. Our relationship with you is important to us, and we depend upon your support now as well as in the future to improve the lives of ALL parrots. Your participation in ongoing data collection regarding your companion parrot(s) will be invaluable to our efforts and help us to supply much needed reference material to the pet and veterinary industry at large.

These questions are most frequently asked:

How much is the placement fee for a bird from The Gabriel Foundation?

Placement fees will vary from species to species. Generally the fees run from \$50-\$850. The fees differ due to the individual bird and adoptive family. The Foundation can only accept a payment plan for the parrot placement fee prior to bird placement. We do accept MasterCard, Visa, American Express, Discover and checks or Money Orders.

It may be less expensive for you to adopt a parrot from the Foundation than purchasing a parrot from a pet store. The real cost to you of adopting a parrot from the Foundation is the time and educational commitment that we require from any adopter for the continued well-being of the parrots leaving the Foundation's aviary. Please understand that your relationship with the Foundation does NOT end when your parrot goes home. We need your continued input, support, membership and commitment to the mission and purpose of the Foundation to help us accomplish the critical parrot welfare services that we provide. Remember, all proceeds from your purchases at The Birdbrain™ LLC support the parrots and programs of the Foundation. Our fees are competitive, our staff is knowledgeable and informed, and we are here to help support you and the human/parrot relationship. We need you to help us make a difference.

How long will it take to adopt a bird from The Gabriel Foundation?

A successful adoption depends upon many factors, and it may take from 6 to 10 weeks and sometimes even longer to complete depending upon individual circumstances. Do not expect to visit the Foundation and leave with an adopted bird on the same day.

Do I need to make a trip to The Gabriel Foundation Aviary?

We strongly encourage you to allocate time to visit the aviary. Many people have no idea what particular species of bird they want, and most often, will be "selected" by a bird. With so many species and personalities at the aviary, it is imperative that you meet a number of potential adoptees after your adoption application has been received. We realize that this may be an additional expense and time factor, but we believe that you will find it extremely helpful and informative. You will be able to meet our adoptive birds in our stable environment, interact at length with your future companion, meet the Foundation staff and residents face to face, and have a substantial opportunity to observe and ask questions about your adopted bird, the Foundation and our programs. If you are traveling from out of state to adopt a bird, we request that you spend a minimum of two days visiting the aviary. We will make every effort to enable you to depart with your adoptive bird, but retain the right to make that decision on a case-by-case

basis. Due to major restrictions on shipping animals via air, and the stress involved, we prefer that you fly home with your bird accompanying you in the cabin or enjoy the opportunity of getting to know your bird during the transition home during a road trip. If a visit to the Foundation is impossible for you, please let us know the specifics of your situation in order that we may find a way to work with you to provide for a successful adoption situation. Be advised that if you reside out of state, additional time might be required in order to complete the adoption interview process.

This brief summary of our adoption process should answer any additional questions:

1. Once the Foundation office is in receipt of your completed Confidential Adoption Application and a **\$75.00** application fee (MasterCard, Visa, American Express, Check or Money Order) for the **Client Education Packet™**, a copy of the book **"A Parrot For Life" by Rebecca O'Connor** and a **Basic Membership** to The Gabriel Foundation, your membership material will be processed within 7 business days and you may expect your membership materials shortly thereafter. No adoption application will be processed without the **\$75.00** application fee. This cost **does not** apply to the bird adoption placement fee.
2. Once the adoption application process begins, you will be contacted by the Director of Adoptions or a representative to help you with the selection of a bird that will be a suitable match for you, your family and lifestyle. If you have an interest in a particular bird, that bird's social and medical history will be fully discussed with you. If you currently share your home with companion parrots, you will need to provide us with the requested veterinary medical information detailed in our Avian Medical Requirements for birds currently in the home of any potential adopter. We will contact your personal references listed on the adoption application for additional information.
3. If you have not met the parrot that you wish to adopt or whether you have already found the "right" bird for your family, you **must** schedule a trip to visit the aviary. Tours are by appointment only and take approximately 90 minutes. For this reason, we request that you schedule this visit several days in advance of your appointment to maximize the benefits of your visit. We do have a suggested donation of \$10.00/adult and \$5/child ages 3-16 for this visit to help us defray adoption expenses. With your completion of the adoption application, we will schedule a specific time for you and your family to meet the aviary birds which may be a suitable adoption match. Remember that "Meet the Birds" is generally held on the 4th Saturday of each month at our Denver center. Call us or visit our Web site for details.
4. One of the Foundation's Adoption Committee members or its representative volunteer, will schedule an in-home visit with you to discuss the necessary husbandry concerns that living with a companion parrot require. If you live out of state, we will network with one of our liaison volunteers or veterinarians to assist in this important process.
5. If you have had little to no experience previously sharing your home with a psittacine bird, the Foundation will suggest resources, bird clubs and veterinarians with a special interest in avian medicine in your area. The Gabriel Foundation has a strong, nationwide network of members who have volunteered to assist us in evaluating an out of state placement. A volunteer's experience and knowledge may be utilized to aid us with your adoption application.

You are required to take our **"Beyond the Bird Care Basics" classes**. The classes are held at our Denver center, on line and at various other locales. The Director of Adoption will provide you with more details. **This is a mandatory part of the adoption process.** Class dates are listed on our Web Site and are invaluable to the companion parrot owner, the aviculturist, veterinary technician and veterinarians. There is a **fee** for the class, discounted for those with an active adoption application. Advances in the fields of behavior, medicine, products, nutrition and conservation are presented in our programs.

6. You will need to schedule a consult, with the staff at The Birdbrain™ LLC or with our Director of Adoption to review our "New Bird's Necessities"™ check list. Expect this consultation to take from 45-60 minutes. If you have an existing cage that you wish to use for your adoptive bird, please provide us the name of the manufacturer, size, finish and bar spacing so that we may advise whether or not it meets the Foundation's guidelines. If you wish to purchase new housing for your bird, we hope that you make your purchases from The Birdbrain™ LLC, as proceeds from all purchases go to support the birds and programs of the Foundation. The Birdbrain™ LLC can also supply you with the finest quality nutritional, enrichment and informational materials. Additionally, The Birdbrain™ LLC provides all adopters a substantial discount on purchases for their adoptive parrot to encourage support of the Foundation and that the parrots receive the

supplies and products necessary to transition successfully with their new families. When your membership materials arrive, you will also receive a discount coupon from The Birdbrain™ LLC to be used at your pleasure!

7. Your adoptive bird will need to have veterinary clearance prior to leaving the Foundation. For this reason, you must schedule the adoption check out at least a week in advance of taking your adoptee home. The adoption checkout requires a time commitment from both the Adoption Coordinator and you. Expect this process to take from 60-90 minutes as we review our protocols, diet, and transition to your home. You will need to provide a suitable carrier for your adoptee for the trip home. The placement/adoption fee is paid at the time of adoption checkout.
8. Once your Probationary Adoption Agreement has been finalized, you are required to contact the Foundation after the bird has transitioned into your home as detailed in the Probationary Adoption Agreement. After that, we request that you call, fax or email us with weekly updates on your adoptive or foster bird during the three-month probationary period. When your Permanent Adoption Agreement™ is completed, we request that you maintain contact with the Foundation at least twice a year concerning the well-being and life of your adopted bird(s). Your participation in this area is critical to the ongoing welfare of all of our birds as this information is an integral part of our database. You may expect to receive an annual follow-up questionnaire requesting information regarding current veterinary work-ups, social and behavioral observations and issues, nutritional, physical and psychological enrichment items provided, indoor/outdoor housing offered, current problems and solutions, and information detailing "A Day in the Life" of your bird(s). Your experiences, comments, questions, suggestions and critiques are integral in helping us to continue to provide for the needs of companion parrots with comprehensive information from our database.
9. Please read thoroughly the terms of the Probationary and the Permanent Adoption agreements. Please be aware that if you decide that you are no longer able to provide for the care and well being of your Foundation-adopted bird, that bird **SHALL** be returned to the Foundation per the terms of the Probationary and Permanent Adoption agreements. You will also be asked to provide the Foundation appropriate information regarding the care of your bird. It is critical to the Foundation that your directives consider the long-term care and well being of any bird adopted through The Gabriel Foundation® in accordance with the terms of the Permanent Adoption Agreement™.
10. It is important for you to know that if for any reason, you are unable to keep or provide for your adopted bird, that you **shall** immediately notify the Foundation and make arrangements for the Bird to be returned to the Foundation. It is imperative for you to understand that you will not have title to the Bird under the Foundation's probationary or permanent adoption agreements. You cannot sell, lease, loan, gift, devise or transfer your adopted bird in any way (collectively "transfer") without the express prior written approval of the Foundation. If you attempt to transfer the bird without the express prior written approval of the Foundation, the Foundation may terminate this agreement, and may remove the bird at the expense of the adoptive family.
11. Finally, we thank you for your patience and understanding in helping us honor our motto, so aptly expressed by Antoine de Saint-Exupery, **"Many have forgotten this truth, but you must not forget it. You remain responsible, forever, for what you have tamed."**

We look forward to welcoming you to The Gabriel Foundation's family of adopters and members! With your support we can make a difference.

The Gabriel Foundation Adoption Committee

T: 303.629.5900 x 213 FAX APPLICATION TO: 303-646-1351

If approved, this Application becomes part of your Probationary Bird Adoption Agreement. The Foundation will rely on the accuracy and completeness of the information you have provided. This completed Application must be notarized and returned with a non-refundable \$75.00 for a Basic Membership, Client Education Pack Fee and the Rebecca O'Connor book "A Parrot For Life" (check, cashier's check, money order, Master Card, Visa or American Express). You cannot be considered as a potential adopter without this paid fee. In addition, you will be expected to pay a placement/adoption fee for the bird you adopt. This application fee is not applicable toward the placement/adoption fee.

If you are using a credit card, (for the \$75.00 fee that includes Basic Membership, Client Education Pack and Rebecca O'Connor's book "A Parrot For Life") please complete the following information:

Visa ____ M/C ____ American Express ____ Discover ____

Credit card number _____ Expiration date _____

Signature _____

Please supply us with three bird and/or animal friendly references: veterinarian, pet store, bird breeder, bird owner, or bird club:

1. Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Does this person share his/her home with a bird? No ____ Yes ____

If yes, for how long? _____ How many birds? _____

2. Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Does this person share his/her home with a bird? No ____ Yes ____

If yes, for how long? _____ How many birds? _____

3. Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Does this person share his/her home with a bird? No ____ Yes ____

If yes, for how long? _____ How many birds? _____

Additional comments (if any!)