



Adoption Application

The Adoption Process

Thank you for your interest in a rescued Border Collie! Please review the application process below before submitting your application. Please remember that every person working with ARM-BCR is a volunteer, doing rescue in his or her “spare” time, so our adoption process (from application to adoption) can take 2-3 weeks. If you’re unwilling to wait that long, we hope that you’ll consider adopting a shelter dog in need.

Step 1: Do your homework!

If you’re considering adopting or looking for your first Border Collie, please do your homework FIRST! While we think Border Collies are the greatest dogs on the planet (no breed snobbery here!), we equally believe that they’re not the dog for everyone.

Step 2: Complete & Submit an Application

Please answer all questions completely. Incomplete applications will not be processed.

Once we receive a completed application, it’s assigned to a volunteer for review and reference checks – we will call the references listed on your application, so you’re welcome to let them know that we’ll be contacting them. This initial step typically takes 1-2 weeks, so please be patient!

Step 3: Home Visit

Once the reference checks are complete and approved, an ARM-BCR representative will contact you to schedule a home visit (HV). This is an informal chance for us to get to know you, your lifestyle, home environment and determine which dog(s) in our program might be a great fit. The HV volunteer will discuss what personality traits you’re looking for as well as general breed traits and what to expect when bringing a Border Collie home. He/she will also do a short walk-through of your home and yard to ensure its safety and to advise on any areas of concern. **All household members must be present for the home visit.**

We strongly encourage applicants to write down questions they may have about Border Collies before the home visit, and discuss these questions with the volunteer. Please understand that the HV volunteer may not personally know any/many of the dogs in our program so may be unable to answer questions about specific dogs. Once the HV report is received by ARM-BCR, it may take a few days for us to collate & review all of the information and get back in touch with you.

Step 4: Matching and Meeting

Once an application is processed and approved, now comes the fun part! While it’s easy to fall in love with a picture, experience and common sense tells us that it is the dog's personality and temperament that determine whether it may make a great match for you. During the matching process an ARM-BCR representative will contact you to discuss specific dogs within our rescue. We work hard to match your desires with the traits and personalities of our dogs. Please understand that we only want what is best for our dogs, so if we don't think a specific dog is a good fit for you, we're not passing judgment on you/your family but are drawing on years of experience with Border Collies, and more importantly, experience with the dogs in our program. “First Come First Served” doesn’t apply here as we match each dog in our program with the most appropriate home for

him/her, whether that home comes next week or next year!

Once we've talked with you on which dog(s) might be a suitable fit, it is time to set up a meet! An ARM-BCR representative will contact you to arrange a meet with your household members, your current dog(s) and the rescued dog. We have experience introducing new dogs, so will help with the introductions of your dog to the rescued dog if applicable. During the meet, keep in mind that rescued Border Collies may be rather aloof or timid at first meeting. While we have seen meets where there is an "insta-bond" between the new dog and the adopter(s), many times that kind of bonding takes time. Please note that you will be required to travel to either the foster home or a mutually agreed on place to meet a foster dog.

The meet is a great time to get any/all questions answered on the dog's temperament, likes/dislikes, and what will be helpful in establishing a wonderful relationship with your new dog!

Step 5: The Adoption

If both you and the ARM-BCR representative feel the dog is a great match for you, the adoption may be completed after the meet. An adoption contract must be completed, signed and the adoption fee paid to complete the adoption. Please review our contract before your meet; it is available on our website or we can e-mail you a copy of it to review before the meet. Please note that if at any time during your rescued dog's life you cannot/no longer wish to keep it, it **must** be returned to ARM-BCR.

Step 6: Follow-up

To ensure a successful adoption, we have a network of volunteers happy to answer any questions or help you work through issues that may arise while your new dog is transitioning into your home, or ten years down the road! We are committed to each and every dog we rescue for the rest of his/her life, so please stay in touch with us as we love getting updates!

Remember that when you adopt a dog, you're saving two lives: the life of the dog you adopt, and a shelter dog that needed his/her now empty spot in our program!

Animal Rescue Michigan - Border Collie Rescue

Fax: 734-531-0734

info@armbcr.org

holly@armbcr.org

ADOPTION APPLICATION

This box must be checked to signify that you have read and understand our adoption process.

Date: _____

Personal Information:

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------|--------------------|-------|
| Name: | _____ | Age: | _____ |
| Co-Applicant / Spouse's Name: | _____ | Age: | _____ |
| Street Address: | _____ | Apt#: | _____ |
| City: | _____ | State: | _____ |
| Zip: | _____ | Email: | _____ |
| Home Phone: | _____ | Cell Phone: | _____ |
| Occupation: | _____ | Work Ph: | _____ |
| Name of Employer: | _____ | How long there? | _____ |
| Spouse's Occupation: | _____ | Work Ph: | _____ |

Number of Children in Home: _____ Do children visit frequently? Yes No

| Names of Children or other Occupants: | Ages: | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|----------|-------|
| 1. _____ | _____ | 4. _____ | _____ |
| 2. _____ | _____ | 5. _____ | _____ |
| 3. _____ | _____ | 6. _____ | _____ |

Do you anticipate any major life changes over the next 5 years (i.e. marriage, having children, moving, retirement)? Yes No If Yes, please explain:

Residence Information:

Please indicate the following that best describes your living situation:

| Ownership: | Type: | Location: |
|--------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lease | <input type="checkbox"/> House | <input type="checkbox"/> City |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rent | <input type="checkbox"/> Condo/Townhouse | <input type="checkbox"/> Suburban |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Own | <input type="checkbox"/> Apartment | <input type="checkbox"/> Country |

If renting, do you have your landlord's permission to keep dogs? Yes No

Please attach such permission in writing. (This will be required prior to processing your application)

How long have you lived at your current address? _____

What are the requirements for dog ownership in your community and how many pets may you legally have?

Does your home have a yard? Yes No If yes, is it fenced? Yes No

Approximate Size: _____ Height of Fence: _____ Type of Fence: _____

If you do not have a fenced yard, how will you exercise, confine and provide for your dog's need to eliminate?

Where will you keep your dog:

During the day? _____

During the night? _____

During family absences overnight? _____

What is the maximum number of hours your dog will be left alone during a 24-hour period? _____

What is the average amount of time your dog will spend alone daily? _____

Where will the dog spend this time? _____

Do you object to the discriminate use of a crate or cage? Yes No

Do you have one? Yes No If no, would you get one? Yes No

Current / Past Pet Information:

Have you owned pets before? Yes No

If no, why do you want a dog now? _____

If yes, list kinds and number of pets you've owned in the past seven years.

| Name: | Type (dog, cat, etc...) OR Breed of Dog | M / F | Age: | Do you still have this pet? | Current on Vaccinations? | Spayed or Neutered? |
|-------|---|-------|------|--|--|--|
| 1. | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 2. | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 3. | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 4. | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |

If you no longer have any of the pets listed above, why? _____

If they are not spayed or neutered and current on vaccinations, why? _____

Is anyone in your household allergic to dogs? Yes No

Have you ever trained a dog before? Yes No

Have you ever adopted an animal from a shelter or rescue group? Yes No

Name of the shelter or rescue organization: _____

Have you ever surrendered a pet of yours to an animal shelter? Yes No

If yes, why? _____

Have you ever sold or given away one of your pets? Yes No

If yes, why? _____

Has anyone in your immediate family/household ever been charged and/or convicted of cruelty to animals or child abuse? Yes No

Veterinary / Reference Information:

Can you afford to spend at least \$800 per year for food and routine medical care for your pet? Yes No

What do you see as the normal vet care requirements of a dog? _____

List your regular veterinarian (Will be contacted for reference check):

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Please provide three **non-related** individuals who can serve as references and can speak to your lifestyle, home environment and history as a pet owner:

| | Reference #1 | Reference #2 | Reference #3 |
|---------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Name: | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Phone: | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Email: | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Best time to reach: | _____ | _____ | _____ |

Your Adopted Border Collie:

How far are you willing to travel (round trip) to meet/adopt your new dog?

1-3 Hrs 3-5 Hrs 5 Hrs+ Comment: _____

Have you educated yourself about Border Collies? Yes No

Have you ever owned a Border Collie? Yes No

Why do you want a Border Collie? _____

Briefly explain your understanding of the physical and mental needs of the Border Collie breed and **how you will provide for these**; include your experience with the breed:

With your knowledge of the breed, are there any traits in the breed that you would prefer to avoid?

What behaviors would you have a hard time dealing with in an adopted dog? (check all that apply)

Too much energy Nervous Shy/Timid Herding and/or nipping Not good with other animals

How much time per day (not including sleeping hours) will you spend with your dog?

1-3 Hrs 3-6 Hrs 6-10 Hrs 10 Hrs+

What will you feed your dog? Please be specific and include brand of dog food! _____

What circumstances, in your mind, justify “getting rid” of a dog? _____

What will you do with your dog if you move? _____

Are you willing to attend obedience classes with your dog? Yes No

What methods / approach will you use to teach your dog desired behaviors?

What will you do/how will you address it should your dog develop a behavior problem (i.e. jumping up on you, growling at strangers, destructive when left alone)?

Which of the following methods/tools do you use in training a dog:

Choke Chain Electric Training Collar Clicker Training
 Prong/Pinch Collar Food/Toy Reward Halti Collar or Gentle Leader
 Other: _____

Please list your preferences:

Sex of dog Male Female Not Important

Age of dog Puppy Young Adult Adult Senior Not Important

Please check the traits most important to you in your new dog:

Good with children Good with dogs Good with cats Travels well
 Friendly Off Leash Potential Doesn't chew Doesn't jump up
 Other: _____

Which activities will you do with your new Border Collie?

Jogging Hiking Biking Walking Visiting dog parks Playing fetch or Frisbee
 Flyball Freestyle Agility Frisbee (Disc Dogs) Herding Obedience Therapy
 Other: _____

How will you meet your dog's needs for physical exercise and mental stimulation? (Be specific with type, frequency & duration of activities):

Activity:

Duration:

Frequency:

| | | |
|----|-------|-------|
| 1. | _____ | _____ |
| 2. | _____ | _____ |
| 3. | _____ | _____ |
| 4. | _____ | _____ |

Will you consider something other than your stated preferences? Yes No

Please note that the dogs listed on our website may be in the process of being adopted or may not be the right match for you and/or your family.

If your application is approved, we will make every effort to find the right dog for you!

Please provide additional information regarding you, your family, your household or lifestyle that is pertinent to this application and will assist us in finding the right dog for you:

ARM-BCR will attempt to provide you with an honest evaluation of temperament on any dog we have to place.

Do you realize that often times the complete history of a Border Collie may not be known and you may encounter some behavioral problems? Yes No

Are you willing to work with us on correcting these problems? Yes No

Have you recently applied to adopt a dog from another rescue group? If so, who? _____
(This may prevent the duplication of reference check and/or home visit efforts)

Thank you for taking the time to complete this application!

By checking this box and signing this form you attest to the truthfulness of your answers, and give us permission to call your references and visit your home prior to approval for adoption. Falsification of any of the above information will be grounds to disallow your adoption of a rescued dog from Animal Rescue Michigan - Border Collie Rescue and/or remove the animal from your premises without a refund of monies paid. The fee to adopt a Border Collie from Animal Rescue Michigan - Border Collie Rescue is \$325.00. Puppies under 6 months of age require an additional \$100.00 spay/neuter deposit refundable with proof of the spay/neuter at 6 months of age.

Applicant Signature: _____

Date: _____

Applicant Signature: _____

Date: _____

Animal Rescue Michigan - Border Collie Rescue

Fax: 734-531-0734

info@armbcr.org

holly@armbcr.org

Please let us know how you heard about us:

Petfinder Adopt-A-Pet Internet Search Facebook Friend / Family Other: