

How to become a partnering AWO?

An AWO that wishes to apply to become a rehoming partner of AFCD must be registered under the Societies Ordinance (Cap 151) OR Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622). The organisation must also be a charitable institution or trust of a public character, which is exempt from tax under section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance¹. If the organisation is charging a rehoming or adoption fee in return for transferring ownership of the animal, it must hold an [exemption](#) from holding an Animal Trader Licence under section 5A of Cap. 139B.

If an AWO can meet the above requirements we will further assess (amongst other things) whether they have a membership or registration scheme for adopters, keep proper accounts of income and expenditure, have a mechanism in place for proper assessment of prospective adopters as well as follow-up after adoption, and have good record-keeping related to adoption. If the AWO has premises for keeping animals we will need to have further details of this and may conduct a site visit.

For initial application, the AWO concerned can send us a copy of the company registration document(s) as mentioned above and submit an application by [post or email](#) including some details of the organisation's background, structure and activities. Afterwards we will contact the AWO to obtain the necessary additional information.

¹ Existing rehoming partners of AFCD who did not have charitable status when joining the scheme prior to March 2017 are exempted from this requirement.