



State Puppy Mill Laws

State	Licensing	Fees	Criteria for Coverage / Exemptions	Inspections	Regulatory Agency	Covers
Alabama	No			No		
Alaska	No			No		
Arizona § 11-1009	Yes	\$75	Kennel – enclosed, controlled area, inaccessible to other animals, in which a person keeps, harbors or maintains five or more dogs under controlled conditions	Yes, mandatory for kennels with 20 dogs or more; allowed for kennels with less than 20 dogs	Board of Supervisors of the County in which the kennel is located	
Arkansas	No			No		
California Health and Safety Code §122045 to 122110	No		Breeder – a person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other association that has sold, transferred, or given all or part of three or more litters or 20 or more dogs during the preceding 12 months that were bred and reared on the premises of the person, firm, partnership, corporation, or other association.	No		Sanitation, nutrition, space, socialization, exercise, veterinary care
Colorado § 35-80-101 to 35-80-117	Yes	Up to \$350	Pet animal facility – any place or premise used for the keeping of pet animals for the purpose of adoption, breeding, boarding, grooming, handling, selling, sheltering, trading, or otherwise transferring such animals. "Pet animal facility" also includes any individual animals kept by such a facility as breeding stock. Exemptions: A veterinary hospital which boards pet animals for the purpose of veterinary medical care only; a research facility, circus, or publicly or privately owned zoological park or petting zoo licensed or registered	Risk-based inspections Low – every 3 years Medium – every 18 months High – every 6 months	State Agricultural Commission	Sanitation, ventilation, temperature, humidity, space, nutrition, humane care, veterinary care

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			under the provisions of the federal Animal Welfare Act; hobby breeder facility; any kennel operated for the breeding or sale or racing of greyhounds that are not intended to be companion pets.			
Connecticut § 22-342 and §22-344	Yes	Kennel: \$50 – up to 10 dogs, \$100 – more than 10 dogs Commercial kennel, grooming facility, training facility – \$100 Pet shop – \$200	Kennel, commercial kennel, pet shop, training facility, grooming facility Annual license required for any kennel owner who breeds more than 2 litters of dogs annually. Kennel owners/keepers who breed less than two litters annually may apply for license.	No regular kennel inspections are required.	Town clerk for breeding kennels; Commissioner of Agriculture for all others	Sanitation, disease, humane treatment, protection of the public safety
Delaware § 1701 to 1704	Yes	Fee based on number of dogs: Up to 12 – \$21 13 to 25 – \$31 26 to 50 – \$51 51+ – \$101	Retail dog dealers – any person who owns or operates a premises where dogs are sold. Kennels – where dogs are kept for show, trial, sale, breeding or other purposes Kennel licenses -- any person who maintains a kennel wherein dogs are kept for show, trial, sale, breeding or other purposes may apply to the Department or its duly authorized agents on a form prescribed by the Department for a kennel license in lieu of a license for each dog. Kennel licenses shall be valid through December 31, and shall not be valid for more than 1 calendar year.	Inspections may be conducted.	Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control	Structurally sound facilities, proper storage of food and supplies, waste disposal, temperature, ventilation, lighting, shelter from the elements, space
Florida	No			No		
Georgia § 4-11-1 to 4-11-10	Yes	\$25 to \$200	Kennel – any establishment, other than an animal shelter, where dogs or cats are maintained for boarding, holding, training, or similar purposes for a fee or compensation. Pet dealer – any person who sells, offers to sell, exchanges, or offers for adoption dogs, cats, birds, fish, reptiles, or other animals customarily obtained as pets in this state. Exemption: A person who sells only animals that he or she has produced and raised, not to exceed 30 animals	Yes, including for new facilities	Commissioner of Agriculture	Facilities in good state of repair, sanitation, ventilation, humane care, disease.

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			a year, shall not be considered a pet dealer under this article unless such person is licensed for a business by a local government or has a Georgia sales tax number.			
Hawaii	No			No		
Idaho	No			No		
Illinois § 225 ILCS 605/1 to 605/22	Yes	\$25	<p>Pet shop, dog dealer, kennel, cattery, guard dog service, an animal control facility or animal shelter</p> <p>"Kennel operator" means any person who operates an establishment, other than an animal control facility, veterinary hospital, or animal shelter, where dogs or dogs and cats are maintained for boarding, training or similar purposes for a fee or compensation; or who sells, offers to sell, exchange, or offers for adoption with or without charge dogs or dogs and cats which he has produced and raised. Excludes a person who owns, has possession of, or harbors 5 or less females capable of reproduction.</p> <p>No person shall engage in business as a pet shop operator, dog dealer, kennel operator, cattery operator, or operate a guard dog service, an animal control facility or animal shelter or any combination thereof without a license.</p>	Yes, including for new facilities	Illinois Department of Agriculture	Sanitation, ventilation, nutrition, humane care
Indiana IC 15-21	Yes	<p>Commercial dog breeders: \$75 for 50 breeding female dogs or less \$200 for 50-100 breeding females \$300 for 100-150 breeding females \$400 for 150-250 breeding females \$ 500 for more than 250 breeding females</p> <p>Commercial dog</p>	<p>"Commercial dog breeder" means a person who maintains more than twenty (20) unaltered female dogs that are at least twelve (12) months of age.</p> <p>"Commercial dog broker" means a person: (1) who is a Class "B" licensee under 9 CFR 1.1; and (2) who sells at least five hundred (500) dogs in a calendar year.</p> <p>Does not apply to: (1) an animal shelter; (2) a humane society; (3) an animal rescue operation; (4) a hobby breeder;</p>	No		Wire flooring, exercise

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		brokers: \$1,000	(5) a person who breeds at least seventy-five (75%) of the person's dogs as sport dogs for hunting purposes; or (6) a person who breeds at least seventy-five (75%) of the person's dogs as service dogs or as dogs for use by the police or the armed forces.			
Iowa § 162.1 to 162.18	Yes	Pet shop – \$50 Commercial kennel, public auction, commercial breeder – \$40 Dealer – \$100 Boarding kennel – \$30	Pet shop, commercial kennel, public auction, dealer, commercial breeder, boarding kennel Exemption: Federally-licensed facilities need only apply for a certificate of registration (\$20 fee) and are not subject to any other rules "Commercial breeder" means a person, engaged in the business of breeding dogs or cats, who sells, exchanges, or leases dogs or cats in return for consideration, or who offers to do so, whether or not the animals are raised, trained, groomed, or boarded by the person. Does not include a person who owns or harbors three or less breeding males or females. However, a person who breeds or harbors more than three breeding male or female greyhounds for the purposes of using them for pari-mutuel racing shall be considered a commercial breeder irrespective of whether the person sells, leases, or exchanges the greyhounds for consideration or offers to do so.	Yes, for new facilities and annually upon renewal (\$162.12)	Iowa Department of Agriculture, Animal Welfare Bureau	Feeding, watering, cleaning, and housing practices
Kansas § 47-1701 to 47-1737	Yes	Hobby breeder or kennel operator – up to \$75 Federally-licensed facility – \$200 Others – \$405	Animal distributor, pet shop, pound or animal shelter, hobby breeder, research facility, kennel operator, animal breeder, retail breeder Exemption: Federally-licensed facilities need only follow USDA rules on animal care. "Retail breeder premises" means any premises where all or part of six or more litters or 30 or more dogs or cats, or both, are sold, or offered or maintained for sale, primarily at retail and not for resale to another.	Yes, including new facilities	Kansas Animal Health Department	Administrative Regulations §9-25-1 to 9-25-14 Housing facilities, feeding, watering, sanitation, exercise, minimum age of animal, compatible grouping

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			<p>"Animal breeder premises" means any premises where all or part of six or more litters of dogs or cats, or both, or 30 or more dogs or cats, or both, are sold, or offered or maintained for sale, primarily at wholesale for resale to another.</p> <p>"Hobby breeder premises" means any premises where all or part of 3, 4 or 5 litters of dogs or cats, or both, are produced for sale or sold, offered or maintained for sale. Applies only if the total number of dogs or cats, or both, sold, offered or maintained for sale is less than 30 individual animals.</p>			
Kentucky	No			No		
Louisiana §3:2772	Yes Limits the number of breeding dogs a facility can maintain (75)	5 dogs or less - \$15 6 -10 dogs - \$25 10+ dogs - \$30	<p>Any individual or business with five or more dogs and who breeds and sells dogs retail, wholesale, or to the public is required to procure a kennel license and pay a kennel license fee in lieu of the individual dog licenses and license fees provided for herein. The governing body of each municipality or parish may, by ordinance, fix the sum to be paid annually for the kennel license fee, which sum shall be dedicated solely for animal impoundment facilities.</p> <p>No individual or business that breeds, buys, or sells dogs retail, wholesale, or to the public shall maintain more than seventy-five dogs over the age of one year at any time for breeding purposes.</p>	No	Governing body of municipality	
Maine § 3907 to 3944	Yes	<p>Kennels – \$75 for Category 1 breeding kennel \$100 for Category 2 breeding kennel \$150 for Category 3 breeding kennel</p> <p>Boarding kennels – \$75</p> <p>Breeding kennels –</p>	<p>Pet shop, animal shelter</p> <p>Kennels – 5 or more dogs or wolf hybrids kept in a single location under one ownership for breeding, hunting, show, training, field trials and exhibition purposes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category 1 – 5-10 breeding females • Category 2 – 11-20 breeding females • Category 3 – 21 or more breeding females <p>Boarding kennel – any place in or on which 3 or more privately owned dogs or other pets, or both, are kept at any one time for their owners in return for a fee.</p>	Inspections to be conducted (Chapters 723 & 735)	Commissioner of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources	Sanitation, temperature, food, lighting, ventilation, housing, noise, minimum age of animal

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		\$75	Breeding kennel – a location where 5 or more adult dogs, wolf hybrids or cats capable of breeding are kept and some or all of the offspring are offered for sale, sold or exchanged for value.			
Maryland § 10-616	No		A premises where a person is engaged in the business of buying, selling, trading, or breeding dogs; or a kennel where 25 or more dogs are kept Exemption: premises where dogs are kept or bred solely for medical research or laboratory tests; places operated by a licensed and regularly practicing veterinarian; or where hunting dogs are housed, if the buying, selling, trading, or breeding is incidental to the main purposes of housing, keeping, and using dogs.	Announced inspections for investigation of inhumane treatment of dogs by an authorized director of a humane society, accompanied by a sheriff or deputy sheriff.	Local enforcement	inhumane treatment of dogs
Massachusetts § 136A to 147B	Yes	No more than 4 dogs – \$10 5 to 10 dogs – \$25 More than 10 dogs – \$50	Kennel – one pack or collection of dogs on a single premises, whether maintained for breeding, boarding, sale, training, hunting or other purposes and including any shop where dogs are on sale, and also including every pack or collection of more than three dogs three months old or over, owned or kept by a person on a single premises irrespective of the purpose for which they are maintained.	Inspections may be conducted	Police Commissioner of Boston or clerk of other towns	330CMR 12:00 Sanitation, humane maintenance, housing, compatible groups
Michigan § 287.270 to 287.286b §287.331 to 287.335	Kennel license may be obtained in lieu of individual licenses	Kennels: 10 or less dogs – \$10 11+ dogs – \$25 Pet shops – \$200 initial and \$100 renewal	Kennel – establishment wherein or whereon 3 or more dogs are confined and kept for sale, boarding, breeding or training purposes Pet shops – place where animals are sold or offered for sale, exchange or transfer	Inspection of new facilities	Local authorities (County Animal Control, Sheriff's Dept.) has authority in the name of Michigan Department of Agriculture	Sanitation, nutrition, shelter, temperature
Minnesota	No			No		
Mississippi	No			No		

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Missouri § 273.325 to 273.357	Yes	\$100 to \$500 animal shelters and pounds exempt from fee	Dealers or commercial breeders, animal shelter, pound or dog pound, boarding kennel, commercial kennel, contract kennel, pet shop, or exhibition facility, other than a limited show or exhibit Exemption: Persons engaged in breeding dogs and cats who harbor three or less intact females or a hobby or show breeder.	Yes, for new facilities and once per year	Animal Welfare Official/State Veterinarian	Rules of the Department of Agriculture Division 30, Chapter 9 Sanitation, ventilation, nutrition, shelter, exercise
Montana	No			No		
Nebraska § 54-625 to 54-641	Yes	Initial license - \$125 Annual fees: 10 dogs or less - \$150 11 to 50 dogs - \$200 More than 50 dogs - \$250	Commercial breeder, dealer, boarding kennel, animal control facility, animal shelter, pet shop <u>Exemptions:</u> A person who owns or harbors three or less unaltered dogs or cats for breeding purposes; a person who sells, exchanges, or leases thirty or less dogs or cats in a twelve-month period if all such dogs or cats are sold, exchanged, or leased to a final owner rather than for later retail sale or brokered trading; a person who purchases, sells, exchanges, or leases thirty or less dogs or cats in a twelve-month period	Yes, for new facilities and once in a 24 month period	State Veterinarian of Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture	Humane handling, care, treatment and transportation of dogs and cats, sanitation, shelter from weather, temperature, shade, nutrition, space, socialization, exercise, veterinary care
Nevada §574.210 to 574.440	No		Kennel, cattery or commercial establishment in business of selling animals, or animal shelter	No		Shelter from elements, light, temperature, ventilation, shade, space, nutrition, sanitation
New Hampshire § 437:1 to 437:13a	Yes	\$200	Pet shop, commercial kennel or animal shelter	Yes, new facilities and at least every 6 months	Department of Agriculture, Markets, and Food	
New Jersey § 4:19-15.1 to 4:19-15.19	Yes - Licenses issued by municipality where kennel is located	Kennels with 10 or less dogs – \$10 Kennels with more than 10 dogs –\$25 Pet shop – \$10 Shelter or pound – No fee	Kennel, pet shop, shelter or pound	Inspections may be conducted	State Department of Health & Senior Services or local board of health	Sanitation, food and water
New Mexico	No			No		

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New York § 400 to 407	Yes – pet dealers only	\$100 \$25 – less than 25 animal sold per year	Pet dealer: any person, firm, partnership, association, municipality, or other legal entity which engages in the sale of more than 9 animals per year for profit to the public. Exemption: A breeder who sells directly to the consumer fewer than 25 animals per year that are born and raised on the breeder's residential property should not be considered a pet dealer.	Yes, annually	Commissioner of Agriculture and Markets	Housing, sanitation, feeding and watering, handling, lighting, veterinary care and humane euthanasia
North Carolina § 19A-20 to 19A-41	Yes	\$50	Pet shop, public auction, boarding kennel, dealer Dealer – any person who sells, exchanges, or donates, or offers to sell, exchange or donate animals to another dealer, pet shop or research facility; provided however that an individual who breeds and raises on his own premises no more than the offspring of five canine or feline females per year, unless bred and raised specifically for research purposes shall not be considered to be a dealer	No	Animal Health Division of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services	Housing, food, sanitation, temperature
North Dakota	No			No		
Ohio § 955.02 to 955.21	Yes, Registering	\$10 – individual counties may raise	Kennel: person, partnership, firm, company, or corporation professionally engaged in the business of breeding dogs for hunting or for sale.	No	County Auditor	
Oklahoma	No			No		
Oregon	No Prohibits possession of more than 50 breeding dogs		Welfare standards in place for anyone with more than 10 breeding dogs. Exempts animal control, humane societies, vets, transporters and boarding facilities	No		Space requirements for enclosures, solid flooring, stacking, exercise, sanitation, record keeping
Pennsylvania Title 3, § 459-101 to 459-219	Yes	Commercial kennel class: 50 or less – \$75 51 to 100 – \$200 101 to 150 – \$300 151 to 250 -- \$400 251 to 500 --\$500 500+ -- \$750	Any person who operates a kennel. Kennels shall be classified by type and the fee for the license shall be determined by kennel type, the number of dogs housed, kept, harbored, boarded, sheltered, sold, given away or transferred in or by the kennel. Kennel types: private, pet shop, dealer, rescue network, research, boarding, nonprofit, commercial. <i>Kennel</i> – Any establishment in or through which at least	Yes, new facilities and at least once per year	Department of Agriculture	Sanitation and humane conditions

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			<p>26 dogs are kept or transferred in a calendar year, or a boarding kennel.</p> <p><i>Commercial Kennel</i> – A kennel that breeds or whelps dogs and: (1) sells or transfers any dog to a dealer or pet shop-kennel, or (2) sells or transfers more than 60 dogs per calendar year.</p>			
Rhode Island § 4-13-10 & § 4-19-1 to 4-19-14	Dealers and kennels only	Pet shop – \$100 Public auction and kennel – \$50 Dealer – \$100	Pet shop, public auction, kennel, and dealer Dealer - any person who sells, exchanges, or donates, or offers to sell, exchange, or donate animals to another dealer, pet shop, or research facility, or who breeds dogs and or cats for the purpose of selling or donating to another dealer or pet shop, or research facility. Kennel - a place or establishment other than a pound or animal shelter where animals not owned by the proprietor are sheltered, fed, and watered in return for a fee.	No	Environmental Management Office	
South Carolina	No			No		
South Dakota	No			No		
Tennessee §44-17.101 to 44-17.120	Yes	Commercial breeders—fees to be set in regulations Dealers--\$125 - \$1,000	Dealers, commercial breeders Dealer - means any person who, for compensation or profit, buys, sells, transports (except as a common carrier), delivers for transportation, or boards dogs or cats for research purposes, or any person who buys or sells 25 or more dogs or cats in any 1 calendar year for resale within the state or for transportation out of the state Commercial breeder - any person who possesses or maintains 20 or more adult female dogs in whole or in part for the purpose of the sale of their offspring as companion animals	Yes—new facilities, upon renewal or complaint	Department of Health	Humane standards to be established by regulations
Texas	No			No		
Utah	No			No		

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Vermont § 3583 to 3684 & § 3901 to 3914 & § 4301 to 4304	Yes	Dogs kept for breeding or sale – \$10 Public auction – \$10 Pet Merchant – \$150	Owner or keeper of two or more domestic pets or wolf- hybrids four months of age or older kept for sale or for breeding purposes, public auction, pet merchant	Inspections may be conducted.	Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets, Division of Food Safety and Consumer Protection; municipal clerk	Humane transportation, primary enclosures, housing facilities, sanitation, euthanasia, ambient temperatures, feeding, watering, and adequate veterinary medical care
Virginia § 3.2.6507	Commercial dog breeders must obtain local business license Limits the number of breeding dogs a facility can maintain (50)	Individual counties, cities or towns may establish permit fees of no more than \$50	No commercial dog breeder shall breed dogs without a valid business license issued by the locality where he maintains dogs for the purpose of commercial dog breeding. Commercial dog breeder – any person who, during any 12-month period, maintains 30 or more adult female dogs for the primary purpose of the sale of their offspring as companion animals Commercial dog breeders shall maintain no more than 50 dogs over the age of one year for breeding purposes and breed female dogs between the ages of 18 months and 8 years only. Pet shops may not sell or offer to sell any dog procured from a person who is not licensed by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture.	Commercial dog breeding operations shall be subject to inspection by animal control at least twice annually and additionally upon complaint	State Veterinarian for the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; any animal control officer or any public health or safety official	Nutrition, shelter, sanitation, space, exercise, adequate care, treatment and transportation, and veterinary care
Washington 16.52 RCW	No Prohibits possession of more than 50 breeding dogs		Welfare standards in place for anyone with more than 10 breeding dogs Exempts animal control, humane societies, vets, pet stores, research institutions, boarding facilities	No		Space requirements for enclosures, exercise, sanitation, shelter, flooring, stacking, access to food and water, vet care
West Virginia § 19-20-3	Yes, Registering	\$10	Kennels – wherein dogs are bred, kept, boarded or sold as a commercial venture for profit	No	Assessor of County in which kennel resides	
Wisconsin	No			No		
Wyoming	No			No		

