

Protocol ID: \_\_\_\_\_

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**BLSA Pet Questionnaire - Ver. 1.0****Section Title: Current Pet****Instructions:**

Date Completed

☐ Blank**Current Pet****1. Do you currently have any pets? *If No, Don't know or Refused, Skip to Pet Ownership section***☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Refused [Click to deselect entry](#)**2. What kind of pets are these?**

Dog

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ [Click to deselect entry](#)  
Refused

If yes, how many?

Cat

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ [Click to deselect entry](#)  
Refused

If yes, how many?

Small mammal  
(rabbit, gerbil, hamster)☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ [Click to deselect entry](#)  
Refused

If yes, how many?

Bird

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ [Click to deselect entry](#)  
Refused

If yes, how many?

Fish

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ [Click to deselect entry](#)  
Refused

If yes, how many?

Reptile  
(turtle, snake, lizard)

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Click to deselect  
Refused entry

If yes, how many?

Other

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Click to deselect  
Refused entry

If yes, how many?

3. What are your main reasons for having (a pet/pets)? *Please mark all that apply*

☐ Enjoy (love) animals

☐ Protection

☐ Companionship

☐ Playmate for child

☐ Want something I could take care of

☐ Want something to keep me busy (occupy time)

☐ Want something to keep me active (exercise)

☐ Therapy (e.g. guide dog)

☐ Was given this pet

☐ Other

☐ Don't know

☐ Refused

4. If you have more than one reason for having a pet, which of these reasons would you say is most important?

- ☐ Enjoy (love) animals
- ☐ Protection
- ☐ Companionship
- ☐ Playmate for child
- ☐ Want something I could take care of
- ☐ Want something to keep me busy (occupy the time)
- ☐ Want something to keep me active (get exercise)
- ☐ Therapy (eg: guide dog)
- ☐ Was given this pet
- ☐ Other
- ☐ Don't know
- ☐ Refused

5. How long have you had the pet you've had the longest?

- ☐ Less than 1 year
- ☐ 1-2 years
- ☐ 3-5 years
- ☐ 6-9 years
- ☐ 10+ years
- ☐ Always
- ☐ Don't know
- ☐ Refused

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**Section Title: Pet Ownership****Instructions:**Pet Ownership History

If you have not had a pet in the past 10 years, go to 'Non-pet owners' section

6. Please think back about the pets you have had during your lifetime. For each type of pet, indicate whether you had one at any time during the year indicated.

One year ago

☐ Dog ☐ Cat ☐ Small Mammal ☐ Bird ☐ Fish  
☐ Reptile ☐ Other

Other, what kind?

Two years ago

☐ Dog ☐ Cat ☐ Small Mammal ☐ Bird ☐ Fish  
☐ Reptile ☐ Other

Other, what kind?

Three years ago

☐ Dog ☐ Cat ☐ Small Mammal ☐ Bird ☐ Fish  
☐ Reptile ☐ Other

Other, what kind?

Four years ago

☐ Dog ☐ Cat ☐ Small Mammal ☐ Bird ☐ Fish  
☐ Reptile ☐ Other

Other, what kind?

Five years ago

☐ Dog ☐ Cat ☐ Small Mammal ☐ Bird ☐ Fish  
☐ Reptile ☐ Other

Other, what kind?

Six years ago

☐ Dog ☐ Cat ☐ Small Mammal ☐ Bird ☐ Fish  
☐ Reptile ☐ Other

Other, what kind?

Seven years ago

☐ Dog ☐ Cat ☐ Small Mammal ☐ Bird ☐ Fish  
☐ Reptile ☐ Other

Other, what kind?

Eight years ago

☐ Dog ☐ Cat ☐ Small Mammal ☐ Bird ☐ Fish  
☐ Reptile ☐ Other

Other, what kind?

Nine years ago

☐ Dog ☐ Cat ☐ Small Mammal ☐ Bird ☐ Fish  
☐ Reptile ☐ Other

Other, what kind?

Ten years ago

☐ Dog ☐ Cat ☐ Small Mammal ☐ Bird ☐ Fish  
☐ Reptile ☐ Other

Other, what kind?

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**Section Title: Pets and Daily Life****Instructions:**

If you do not currently own a pet, go to 'Non-pet owners' section

**Pets and Daily Life**

The following questions concern how having a pet may impact people's daily lives.

Please check how often a pet influenced your life in each way, in the last 10 years.

7. How often have you declined to visit family or friends or take trip out of concern for your pet(s) welfare?

☐ Never ☐ Almost never ☐ A few times ☐ Several times ☐ Often [Click to deselect entry](#)

8. How often have you delayed or refused medical care out of concern for your pet(s) welfare while you were being treated?

☐ Never ☐ Almost never ☐ A few times ☐ Several times ☐ Often [Click to deselect entry](#)

9. How often have expenses related to your pet(s) impacted your ability to pay for necessities for yourself and your family (e.g., food, medication and health care services)?

☐ Never ☐ Almost never ☐ A few times ☐ Several times ☐ Often [Click to deselect entry](#)

10. How often have you needed medical attention because you were scratched, bitten or tripped by your pet(s)?

☐ Never ☐ Almost never ☐ A few times ☐ Several times ☐ Often [Click to deselect entry](#)

11. Does/Did having a pet(s) encourage you to be more socially active?

☐ No ☐ A little ☐ Some ☐ A lot [Click to deselect entry](#)

12. Does/Did having a pet(s) encourage you to take better care of your health?

☐ No ☐ A little ☐ Some ☐ A lot [Click to deselect entry](#)

The next few questions are about your favorite pet

16. What pet is your **favorite** pet?

☐ Dog ☐ Cat ☐ Other    Click to deselect entry    Other please specify

13. Thinking back to when you first got your pet, whose decision was it to get the pet?

- ☐ You alone
- ☐ You and someone else
- ☐ Someone else alone
- ☐ Don't know
- ☐ Refused

14. Who is most responsible for the care and feeding of your pet, including any trips to the veterinarian?

- ☐ You alone
- ☐ You and someone else
- ☐ Someone else alone
- ☐ Don't know
- ☐ Refused

15. How would you rate your pet's health overall

- ☐ Excellent
- ☐ Very good
- ☐ Good
- ☐ Fair
- ☐ Poor
- ☐ Don't know
- ☐ Refused

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**Section Title: Favorite Pet****Instructions:**

Please answer some very brief statements about your favorite pet.

17. For each statement, check whether you Disagree Strongly, Disagree Somewhat, Agree Somewhat, Agree Strongly or Don't Know.

a. My pet means more to me than any of my friends.

☐ Disagree Strongly ☐ Disagree Somewhat ☐ Agree Somewhat ☐ Agree Strongly ☐ Don't know [Click to deselect entry](#)

b. Quite often I confide in my pet.

☐ Disagree Strongly ☐ Disagree Somewhat ☐ Agree Somewhat ☐ Agree Strongly ☐ Don't know [Click to deselect entry](#)

c. I believe pets should have the same rights and privileges as family members.

☐ Disagree Strongly ☐ Disagree Somewhat ☐ Agree Somewhat ☐ Agree Strongly ☐ Don't know [Click to deselect entry](#)

d. I believe my pet is my best friend.

☐ Disagree Strongly ☐ Disagree Somewhat ☐ Agree Somewhat ☐ Agree Strongly ☐ Don't know [Click to deselect entry](#)

e. Quite often, my feelings toward people are affected by the way they react to my pet.

☐ Disagree Strongly ☐ Disagree Somewhat ☐ Agree Somewhat ☐ Agree Strongly ☐ Don't know [Click to deselect entry](#)

f. I love my pet because he/she is more loyal to me than most of the people in my life.

☐ Disagree Strongly ☐ Disagree Somewhat ☐ Agree Somewhat ☐ Agree Strongly ☐ Don't know [Click to deselect entry](#)

g. I enjoy showing other people pictures of my pet.

☐ Disagree Strongly ☐ Disagree Somewhat ☐ Agree Somewhat ☐ Agree Strongly ☐ Don't know [Click to deselect entry](#)



h. I think my pet is just a pet.

☐ Disagree Strongly ☐ Disagree Somewhat ☐ Agree Somewhat ☐ Agree Strongly ☐ Don't know

[Click to deselect entry](#)

i. I love my pet because it never judges me.

☐ Disagree Strongly ☐ Disagree Somewhat ☐ Agree Somewhat ☐ Agree Strongly ☐ Don't know

[Click to deselect entry](#)

j. My pet knows when I'm feeling bad.

☐ Disagree Strongly ☐ Disagree Somewhat ☐ Agree Somewhat ☐ Agree Strongly ☐ Don't know

[Click to deselect entry](#)

k. I often talk to other people about my pet.

☐ Disagree Strongly ☐ Disagree Somewhat ☐ Agree Somewhat ☐ Agree Strongly ☐ Don't know

[Click to deselect entry](#)

l. My pet understands me.

☐ Disagree Strongly ☐ Disagree Somewhat ☐ Agree Somewhat ☐ Agree Strongly ☐ Don't know

[Click to deselect entry](#)

m. I believe that loving my pet helps me stay healthy.

☐ Disagree Strongly ☐ Disagree Somewhat ☐ Agree Somewhat ☐ Agree Strongly ☐ Don't know

[Click to deselect entry](#)

n. Pets deserve as much respect as humans do.

☐ Disagree Strongly ☐ Disagree Somewhat ☐ Agree Somewhat ☐ Agree Strongly ☐ Don't know

[Click to deselect entry](#)

o. My pet and I have a very close relationship.

☐ Disagree Strongly ☐ Disagree Somewhat ☐ Agree Somewhat ☐ Agree Strongly ☐ Don't know

[Click to deselect entry](#)

p. I would do almost anything to take care of my pet.

☐ Disagree Strongly ☐ Disagree Somewhat ☐ Agree Somewhat ☐ Agree Strongly ☐ Don't know

[Click to deselect entry](#)

q. I play with my pet quite often.

☐ Disagree Strongly ☐ Disagree Somewhat ☐ Agree Somewhat ☐ Agree Strongly ☐ Don't know

[Click to deselect entry](#)

r. I consider my pet to be a great companion.

☐ Disagree Strongly ☐ Disagree Somewhat ☐ Agree Somewhat ☐ Agree Strongly ☐ Don't know

[Click to deselect entry](#)

s. My pet makes me feel happy.

☐ Disagree Strongly ☐ Disagree Somewhat ☐ Agree Somewhat ☐ Agree Strongly ☐ Don't know

[Click to deselect entry](#)

t. I feel that my pet is a part of my family.

☐ Disagree Strongly ☐ Disagree Somewhat ☐ Agree Somewhat ☐ Agree Strongly ☐ Don't know

[Click to deselect entry](#)

u. I am not very attached to my pet.

☐ Disagree Strongly ☐ Disagree Somewhat ☐ Agree Somewhat ☐ Agree Strongly ☐ Don't know

[Click to deselect entry](#)

v. Owning a pet adds to my happiness.

☐ Disagree Strongly ☐ Disagree Somewhat ☐ Agree Somewhat ☐ Agree Strongly ☐ Don't know

[Click to deselect entry](#)

w. I consider my pet to be a friend.

☐ Disagree Strongly ☐ Disagree Somewhat ☐ Agree Somewhat ☐ Agree Strongly ☐ Don't know

[Click to deselect entry](#)

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**Section Title: Dogs Only****Instructions:**

The next few questions are about dogs only. If you do not own a dog, please skip to 'Non-pet owners' section - Other people's pets - question 35

18. Do you walk your dog?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Refused      Click to deselect entry

If No, Don't know or Refused, go to Question 19

If Yes, go to Question 20 thru 24

19. What is the main reason you don't walk your dog/dogs?

- ☐ Dog too old or unable to walk      Click to deselect entry
- ☐ Dog self-exercised goes out by him/herself
- ☐ Outdoor dog stays in pen
- ☐ Dog not well behaved doesn't walk well on leash
- ☐ Respondent too old or unable to walk
- ☐ Someone else walks the dog
- ☐ Respondent has no time or interest
- ☐ Bad weather too cold/hot
- ☐ Dog doesn't like to walk/exercise
- ☐ Dog too big/too strong
- ☐ Other
- ☐ Don't know
- ☐ Refused

20. How many times per day do you walk your dog?

Times per day:

☐ Less than once per day ☐ Don't know ☐ Refused [Click to deselect entry](#)

21. How many minutes or hours per day do you walk your dog each time?

Minutes

Hours

☐ Don't know ☐ Refused [Click to deselect entry](#)

22. Because you have a dog/dogs, do you think that overall you walk - a lot more, somewhat more, about the same, somewhat less, or a lot less than you would if you did not have a dog/dogs?

☐ A lot more ☐ Somewhat more ☐ About the same ☐ Somewhat less ☐ A lot less ☐ Don't know [Click to deselect entry](#)  
☐ Refused

23. Compared with when you walk without your dog/dogs, when you walk **with** your dog/dogs, do you usually walk...

☐ A lot faster [Click to deselect entry](#)  
☐ Somewhat faster  
☐ About the same speed  
☐ Somewhat slower  
☐ A lot slower  
☐ Never walk without my dog  
☐ Don't know  
☐ Refused

24. Compared with when you walk without your dog/dogs, when you walk **with** your dog/dogs, do you usually walk...

- ☐ Much longer distance
- ☐ Somewhat longer distance
- ☐ About the same distance
- ☐ Somewhat shorter distance
- ☐ Much shorter distance
- ☐ Never walk without my dog
- ☐ Don't know
- ☐ Refused

Click to deselect entry

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**Section Title: Non-pet owners****Instructions:**

The next questions are for non-pet owners

25. Why don't you have a pet? *Please mark the main reason*

☐ No interest[Click to deselect entry](#)☐ Too expensive☐ Too much time or work to care for pet☐ Allergies (own or household member)☐ Health risks☐ Other☐ Don't know☐ Refused

26. Have you ever had a pet? *If no, Don't know, or Refused, skip to Question 35 - Other people's pets*

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Refused[Click to deselect entry](#)

27. What kind of pets did you have? *Please mark all that apply*

Dog

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Refused[Click to deselect entry](#)

Cat

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Refused[Click to deselect entry](#)Small mammal  
(rabbit, gerbil, hamster)☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Refused[Click to deselect entry](#)

Bird

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Refused[Click to deselect entry](#)

- Fish ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Refused [Click to deselect entry](#)
- Reptile  
(turtle, snake, lizard) ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Refused [Click to deselect entry](#)
- Other ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Refused [Click to deselect entry](#)

*28. How many years has it been since you last had a pet?*

- ☐ Less than 1 year [Click to deselect entry](#)
- ☐ 1-2 years
- ☐ 3-5 years
- ☐ 6-9 years
- ☐ 10-19 years
- ☐ 20-29 years
- ☐ 30+ years
- ☐ Don't know
- ☐ Refused

*The next few questions are about your favorite pet that you had in the past*

*29. Did you consider your pet a friend?*

- ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Refused [Click to deselect entry](#)

*30. Did you talk to your pet?*

- ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Refused [Click to deselect entry](#)

*31. Would you say that owning a pet added to your happiness?*

- ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Refused [Click to deselect entry](#)

*32. Did you talk to others about your pet?*

- ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Refused [Click to deselect entry](#)

*33. Did you often play with your pet?*

- ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Refused [Click to deselect entry](#)

*34. Did your pet know how you felt about things?*

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Refused [Click to deselect entry](#)

*Other people's pets*

*35. Do you have regular contact with other people's pets? If No, Don't know or Refused - End of Interview - Thank you*

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Refused [Click to deselect entry](#)

*36. What kind of pets did you have regular contact with? Please mark all that apply*

Dog ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Refused [Click to deselect entry](#)

Cat ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Refused [Click to deselect entry](#)

Small mammal  
(rabbit, gerbil, hamster) ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Refused [Click to deselect entry](#)

Bird ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Refused [Click to deselect entry](#)

Fish ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Refused [Click to deselect entry](#)

Reptile  
(turtle, snake, lizard) ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Refused [Click to deselect entry](#)

Other ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Refused [Click to deselect entry](#)

*37. Do you help feed or care for any of these pets?*

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Refused [Click to deselect entry](#)

*38. If the answer to Question 36 is a dog, how often do you walk with someone else's dog?*

☐ Never [Click to deselect entry](#)

☐ Once a week or less

☐ Several times a week

☐ Once a day or more

☐ Don't know

☐ Refused