

Des Moines Requirements for “Pit Bull” Dogs

Defined in the city of Des Moines ordinance as “American Pit Bull Terriers”, “American Staffordshire Terriers”, “Staffordshire Terriers” or predominant mixes (if it is a predominant mix it will be the 1st breed listed on the kennel card/ website. If it is listed as the 2nd breed, these regulations do not apply). If you have acquired your dog outside of the ARL and are unsure if it falls under these requirements, call 284-6905 for a breed determination by the city Veterinarian.

Licensing:

- Must display current city license tag and current rabies vaccination tag at all times
- City license must be renewed each year by January 1

Insurance:

- Current liability insurance of at least \$100,000 must be maintained

Confinement:

Must be securely confined in one of the following:

- Inside a house or residence (not on a porch or patio that would allow the dog to exit the building on its own).
- Inside a kennel/pen with an attached top or inside a kennel/pen without a top but with wall 6 feet tall. The kennel/pen must be locked with a padlock and the walls of the kennel must be attached to a floor/foundation or be embedded in the ground no less than two (2) feet. An open top kennel/pen must be 6 feet taller than any internal structure. **If you have a fence, just keep them on a leash and you will be compliant.**

Leashing:

Must be leashed in accordance with all of the following:

- The person holding the leash must be 18 years old or older.
- The leash cannot be longer than 6 feet long.
- The leash cannot be tied to an inanimate object; such as a tree, pole or tie-out.

