

Service Dog Program

Full Program Overview & Assessment Information

Thank you for your interest in our Service Dog Program. This document provides a full overview of how our assessment process works, how dogs are accepted into the program, and what is included if your dog is approved and completes the program.

Step 1: Initial Assessment (In-Person Evaluation)

The first step is an in-person assessment where we evaluate your dog's behavior, temperament, confidence, stability, and overall suitability for service or support work. This assessment includes stranger interaction, dog neutrality, response to noise, handling, focus, environmental stability, startle and recovery, separation, food refusal, leash behavior, and general obedience.

Assessment Fee: \$150. If your dog is not suitable for the Service Dog Program at this time, the **\$150 assessment fee will be credited** toward our Foundation Training Program.

Step 2: Temperament Test (Off-Site Evaluation)

If your dog passes the initial assessment, the next step is a more detailed Temperament Test conducted off-site on a separate date. This evaluates environmental stability, nerve strength and recovery, public suitability, neutrality, trainability, handling tolerance in busy environments, and overall working temperament.

Step 3: Program Acceptance & Training

If your dog passes both the Assessment and Temperament Test, your dog may be accepted into either the Service Dog Program or Support Dog Program. Training includes advanced obedience, public access training, neutrality, environmental confidence, handler education, and task training (for service dogs).

Step 4: Testing & Certification

At the end of the program, dogs must pass a Public Access Test and, if applicable, a Task Test. Dogs that pass may qualify for certification under our internal program standards.

What Is Included When a Dog Completes the Program

- Formal Certification
- Official Certificate
- Wallet-sized Certification ID Card
- Certification Identification Number and Record
- Public Access Test Documentation
- Task Test Documentation (if applicable)
- Handler instruction and guidelines
- Ongoing support and guidance

- Collaboration with physicians, therapists, or psychiatrists if documentation is required
- Guidance with legal, housing, workplace, travel, or government-related processes where applicable
- Renewal and re-certification testing when required

If a Dog Is Not Accepted Into the Program

We will recommend Foundation Training focusing on obedience, socialization, confidence building, impulse control, and behavior modification if needed. Some dogs may be re-evaluated after foundation training.

Next Steps

If you would like to move forward with the Initial Assessment, please contact us to schedule your dog's assessment.

Sincerely,

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