



DOG & HUMAN
Criteria & Requirements

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1. WHAT KIND OF DOG CAN BE A (PET)THERAPY DOG IN TRAINING?

What kind of dog can be a (Pet) therapy dog in training?



Dogs come in all breeds, shapes, and sizes. One thing they must have in common is temperament - pet therapy, (pet) therapy dogs, in training must be confident, friendly, patient, and gentle in all situations.

While not every dog is made for this kind of work, there are certain characteristics that set some dogs apart.

- Dogs must have a basic level of training so that they are reliable and under control even in crowded situations and when there are loud noises.
- should consistently demonstrate that they are well behaved and have good manners.
- it is important that dogs that participate in AAA have an interest in people and enjoy visiting.

Your dog has good manners.

- Basic obedience such as sit, down, stay and come are important but even more so, are calm manners.
- Be able to sit calmly for petting as well as not lick or paw strangers.

Your dog loves human contact.

It is also important your dog likes to be touched by strangers. Children can be rough or fast moving with their hands, while the elderly may move slowly, or pet with arthritic hands. A community (pet) therapy dog should also be tolerant of hugs, (in fact most do not) especially from strangers.

Your dog ignores other dogs.

Be able to ignore other dogs and save canine socialisation for another day.

Your dog is comfortable around locations and equipment.

Locations that many pets' therapies dogs visit include, nursing homes, hospitals and various community establishments and events. To visit these locations, a working (pet) therapy dog must be comfortable and have calm manners around walkers, wheelchairs, canes, bandages, and tubing.

2. DOG CRITERIA

Training, Health, and Evaluation



Dog Training Basics

"Paws for A Cause" Program:

- Dog Requires basic training. (Manners)

Eligibility Requirements

"Paws for A Cause" Program:

- Dog must have a basic level of training so that they are reliable and under control even in crowded situations and when there are loud noises.
- have lived with the owner for at least six months and must be at least 1-year old.
- A dog of any breed or mix of breeds may participate, if its presence does not violate local animal control laws.
- ideally neutered or spayed.

Exclusion of Dogs Trained for protection or Bite Work

Dogs that have been trained to aggressively protect, and dogs that have been encouraged to bite, even as a component of a working task or a competitive activity, are not eligible to be evaluated or registered for (pet) therapy dog work.

Veterinarian Health Clearance:

A veterinarian health care clearance will be required for your dog, we supply the forms for you to have your regular veterinarian conduct a health check including a handling assessment to ensure that your dog is healthy and physically able to perform AAA/AAT, record vaccinations and any other requirements recommended by the veterinarian. We want to make sure that all

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dogs participating in the program are healthy and free from parasites, disease, infections, and illness.

- **should be free of any signs of ill health.**
- **must be free of internal and external parasites.**
- **must be house trained.**
- **shall be cleaned and groomed within 24 hours prior to the visit.**

Vaccinations

- Your dog must be up to date with yearly required vaccinations (C5)
- All vaccinations must be documented by a licensed veterinarian.
- veterinary examinations are required every twelve (12) months, or any additional types of health screening requested by the veterinarian.

Animals with Disabilities

The dog's regular veterinarian will determine whether the dog is physically able to participate in AAA Community work.

Temperament and Skills Set Evaluation:

It is a requirement for insurance and placement purposed that your dog is evaluated for temperament and skills set, prior to being considered for the "Paws for a cause program. Dog is handled tested within the veterinarian health clearance process then evaluation of temperament and skills is tested by Therapeutic Dog Services, AAI evaluator prior to being considered for entry into any of the training programs on offer.

Screenings evaluate how well the animal and handler work together, and what environments they are best suited for.

Assesses whether.

- the animal can be controlled by the handler and follow basic commands.
- simulates conditions that may be encountered on a visit and to determine whether the team has the ability, capacity, and potential for (Pet) Therapy Dog Community Work.
- resembles a series of situations that might occur on a routine Pet Therapy Dog Visitation.
- Dog is temperament tested by Therapeutic Dog Services AAI evaluator prior to being considered for any level of therapy dog team training and placement registration.

Please note:

- All dogs are observed on the job by AAI evaluator prior to being considered for advancing to www.therapydogregistry.online therapy dog novice, therapy dog, and therapy dog advanced registration.
- Dog is also skilled set tested prior to being considered for the www.therapydogregistry.online therapy dog novice, therapy dog, therapy dog advanced programs.

3. HUMAN REQUIREMENTS & CRITERIA

Requirements for participating in training.



Education:

You will need to have completed year 10, or equivalent.

Minimum Age:

You will need to be at least 16 years of age, if you are under 18 years your enrolment form will need to be signed by a parent or guardian.

English:

Training involves reading and undertaking a range of written assessments, as well as engaging in online forms and discussions.

Computing:

You will need access to a computer and the internet and have basic computing skills.

Physical requirements:

You need to be reasonable physically fit to undertake the work placement as the tasks and activities associated with the work placement involve physical activities.

Human Criteria Requirements

- You reside in Adelaide and or surrounding area of South Australia
- you own a well-mannered dog, with basic obedience and is up to date with vaccinations.
- you are able to complete the 10 hours online training.
- available to attend a "Paws for a cause" 2 hour mentor session with an experienced team.
- You are available to participate in the industry work placement component, volunteering, community work up to 1 hour to 90 mins - weekly, fortnightly, monthly for partner facility site (pet) therapy dog visitations.
- You drive a car.
- You would like to make a difference in someone's life by sharing your dog with others to make someone's day.
- You are empathetic towards the public or those who live with acute illness, ageing, disability, and mental health population.

Police Clearance

You will be required to hold 4 x DHS current police clearance certificate.

We provide forms to you, submit on your behalf.

PLEASE NOTE: there is no further cost to you for police clearances.

4. TRAINING & INDUSTRY PLACEMENT

Training, Industry Placement and Professional Development



Initial Training

1. "Paws for a cause" Program: Initial Mandatory 10 hours online training

Industry Volunteer Work Placement component

1. "Paw for a cause" Program: 1 ½ hours visitation per week/fortnightly/monthly
Minimum: 18 hours (12 visits x 1.5 hours) over 6 months

Professional Development Training Component

1. "Paws for a cause" Program: optional professional development training component

What is AAI Industry placement?

The structured industry placement gives you the opportunity to put your learning into practice.

Provide insights into AAI and the industry and the workplace in which they are located. This opportunity to be fully immersed and see the "inner workings" is an opportunity that you won't find anywhere else!

Industry Experience

Is short term placement of members, with our industry partners to provide insights into AAI, and the industry and the workplace in which they are located. It provides participants with the valuable opportunity to:

- develop employability skills.
- explore possible career options.

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- understand employer expectations.
- increase their self-understanding, maturity, independence, and self-confidence.

Members are placed with Therapeutic Dog Services Incorporated, industry partners primarily to provide community work in (pet) therapy dog visitations, including observe and learn about the industry in which AAI services are located.

- not to undertake activities which require extensive training or expertise.

Structured Workplace Learning

Provides members with the opportunity to integrate on-the-job experience with their study. It provides:

- enhanced skill development
- practical application of AAI industry knowledge
- assessment of units of competency
- achievement of some learning outcomes
- enhance employment opportunities.

Community Work

Community Work (volunteering work) is community work undertaken by members. which: supports learning and therapy dog career development

- directly benefits the community.
- is organised by Therapeutic Dog Services Incorporated
- is approved by the management board of Therapeutic Dog Services as community work.

Industry placement, community work should be undertaken voluntarily by participants, and they must not receive any remuneration or reward for this work.

Insurance

You will be covered by Therapeutic Dog Services Incorporated, \$20 million comprehensive General public liability and volunteer's insurance.

5. BENEFITS TO YOU

Benefits:

Industry experience
Structured Learning
Community Work

Documentation:

Dog evaluation and temperament test
4 x DHS Police clearance

Training:

Online or handbook training
In classroom training
Industry placement.
Course materials
Access to the staff portal

Uniform

t-shirt (Optional: available for purchase)
Identification badge (Included)
dog bandanna (Optional: available for purchase)

Award Titles

Therapeutic Dog Services Incorporated awards official titles to dogs and their owners who have worked to improve the lives of the people they have visited. (Pet) Therapy Dog titles can be earned by dogs who have qualified and have performed the required number of visits.

Industry Experience

Industry partner experience, placement, and community work
Insurance Inclusion, commercial liability insurance (accreditation requirements must be upheld)
Receive pet therapy volunteering, employment training and industry placement.
Receive mentor, supervision, and support.

Certification:

Receive access to online professional development training and certification.
Certificate of appreciation and certification (on completion on your 6 months industry placement)

Opportunities

Networking opportunities
Chances for recognition
May be identified as a contact for local or national media.
May have opportunities to take part in research studies.
Professional Development

Other

Therapeutic Dog Services publications
Remain in the organisations data base.
Invited to Therapeutic Dog Services social group activities and Annual General Meeting

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For Further information

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