

Autism Support & Regulation Placement Dog Program Overview

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Autism Support & Regulation Placement Dog Program is a comprehensive service dog development program designed for individuals living with autism spectrum disorder and related disabilities. Dogs in this program are carefully selected from purpose-bred litters, temperament tested, and professionally developed through advanced service dog training.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Dogs accepted into the program undergo structured development including temperament evaluation, socialization, environmental stability, obedience, public access skills, confidence building, disability-mitigating task development, real-world application, and grooming, handling, veterinary examination, and cooperative care procedures.

PUBLIC ACCESS SKILLS

Training includes loose leash walking, public settling, neutrality to people and animals, stores, restaurants, medical facilities, elevators, automatic doors, vehicle travel, crowded environments, and extended public outings.

CARE, OBEDIENCE & CONTROL

Training includes marker-based communication, sit, down, place, recall, loose leash walking, greeting manners, impulse control, crate training, household manners, vehicle manners, social skills, and cooperative care procedures.

SPECIALIZED TASK DEVELOPMENT

Task training is individualized to the handler's disability-related need and may include emotional regulation support, tactile grounding, behaviour interruption, transition support, routine assistance, environmental navigation, safety support, retrieval tasks, and response sequences.

Not all dogs will perform all listed tasks.

Response Sequences:

- Sensory Overload Response Sequence
- Transition Support Response Sequence

Response sequences are multi-step trained behaviours designed to assist the handler through specific disability-related challenges, events, or episodes.

HANDLER DEVELOPMENT & TRANSITION SUPPORT

- Twelve (12) individualized follow-up training sessions
- Twelve (12) weeks of written guidance and reintegration support

- Written command list and handling reference guide
- Homework plans and skill maintenance exercises
- Video demonstrations
- Access to Puppy FUNDamentals 2.0
- Access to Life Skills Level 1
- Access to Service Dog Foundations and Public Access coursework

TRAINING HOURS & DEVELOPMENT SUMMARY

- 12-Month Placement Dog Program: Minimum 450 professional training hours
- 18-Month Placement Dog Program: Minimum 550 professional training hours

Training hours do not include routine care, feeding, exercise, transportation, veterinary appointments, or other management activities.

PROGRAM SUMMARY

The goal of this program is to develop highly trained service dogs that provide meaningful disability mitigation while increasing handler independence, emotional regulation, confidence, accessibility, participation in daily activities, and quality of life.