



Assistance Dogs Australia Limited

Increasing the Independence of People with Physical Disabilities

PUPPY SITTING

What does it mean

In 1996, Assistance Dogs Australia was officially established following three years of extensive work by a dedicated group of volunteers. Assistance Dogs Australia is a non-profit organisation and it aims to provide dogs to assist people with disabilities in their lives other than sight and hearing impairments.

Assistance Dogs learn to respond to over 40 commands and assist the person with a disability to live as independently as possible with the Assistance Dog helping out in everyday situations.

Volunteers for puppy sitting

The puppy sitting program presents a unique opportunity for volunteers to assist in creating a meaningful change in someone's life. Assistance Dogs requires volunteers who are committed to the aims of the program, to puppy sit a puppy in their home for short periods of time while their puppy raisers are on leave. The puppy raising family is a vital element in the entire program and if successful is the foundation for a stable, dependable and trustworthy companion for a person with a disability.

Growing puppies

Puppy sitters continue to ensure that Assistance puppies are socialised and well-mannered in a whole range of settings, these include the local shopping centre, public transport, even going to work with the family. All these experiences prepare the puppy for its future role as an Assistance Dog. Training sessions for the puppies are held regularly and the puppies are consistently evaluated. Commitment is the key to success for Assistance Dogs puppies, they need puppy sitters while their volunteer puppy raisers are on leave, who are prepared to follow the Assistance Dogs guidelines, attend classes and work as a team with staff to ensure that puppies graduate to advanced training programs.

Puppy Sitting Guidelines

If you are interested in becoming a puppy sitter, please review the following guidelines, complete the details below and post.

- Puppy sitter is required to attend all training classes that take place whilst the pup is in your care.
- Puppy sitter is required to pay for transportation costs.
- Puppy is to be fed according to Assistance Dogs Australia guidelines.
- Puppy shall live with the family for short periods of time while their volunteer puppy raisers are on leave.
- Puppy sitter must have a fenced yard or kennel.
- Puppy sitter agrees to return the puppy upon request.
- Puppy sitter's age requirements shall be determined by an Assistance Dogs Australia representative and parental permission is required if under 18 years of age.
- The Assistance Dogs puppy should be the only young puppy in the household.

Please send completed application to:

Assistance Dogs Australia

PO Box 455

ENGADINE 2233

or Fax : (02) 9548 3766

Head Office:
PO Box 455, ENGADINE NSW 2233
3/1339-1341 Princes Hwy, HEATHCOTE NSW 2233

Ph. (02) 9548 3355
Toll Free. 1800 688 364
Fax. (02) 9548 3766

Website: www.assisteddogs.org.au
Email: rlord@assisteddogs.org.au
Email: info@assisteddogs.org.au



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PUPPY SITTER APPLICATION

Applicant's Name: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____

State: _____ Post code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Mobile: _____ E-mail: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Sex: Male () Female ()

Occupation: _____

Other Family Members: _____

Office Use Only. ID _____

Date Received: _____

Interview Date: _____

Interview Time: _____

Comments: _____

1. How did you hear about the Assistance Dogs Australia puppy sitting program?

2. What are your primary reasons for wanting to puppy sit? _____

3. Have you previously raised an Assistance Dog puppy? Yes () No ().
If Yes, list names?

4. Have you previously applied for an Assistance Dog puppy? Yes () No () If Yes, when?



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5. Have you raised any Non Assistance Dog puppies? Yes () No ()
If Yes, how many and which breeds?

6. Are you a member of a service club/organisation? If Yes, please list?

7. What are the breeds, ages and genders of the dogs currently living with you?

8. Please list any other pets living in your home

9. Have you had any other dogs in the last ten years? Yes () No ()
If "yes", please list each by name and indicate why you no longer have it.

10. Have you received any formal obedience training with your dog(s)? Yes () No ()

11. Do you have an enclosed yard? Yes () No ()
If No, are you willing to build a kennel or run? Yes () No ()



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12. Please list (names/ages/relationship to you) all others living in the household.

13. Please briefly describe your home, yard, and living environment.

** Note: If you have a pool, it has to be fenced.

14. If you are accepted to puppy sit and Assistance Dog puppy, where do you plan to have it sleep at night? _____

15. Do you rent or own your home? If you rent, please list your landlords name and daytime phone number. _____

16. Will you be able to take the Assistance Dog puppy to your workplace? Yes () No ()
If Yes, how often? If "yes", please describe your work environment. _____



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17. Are you or another member of your household home during the daytime?
Yes () No (). If Yes, who is home and for how many hours? _____

18. Please describe a typical day for you: _____

19. Please describe your feelings about returning the puppy back to their volunteer puppy raisers: _____

20. About how much time per day do you plan to spend training the Assistance Dog puppy? 10-20 minutes () 20-30 minutes () more than 30 minutes ()

21. Are you willing to attend regularly scheduled obedience classes during the entire time the puppy is in your care? Yes () No ()

22. Do you have the physical ability to correct or restrain a 35 kg dog? Yes () No ()

23. If your application is accepted, how soon will you be ready to foster a puppy?

Please note: Preference cannot be given for specific breed, gender or colour.



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To the best of my knowledge, the above information is true and accurate. If I am selected as a Assistance Dogs Australia puppy sitter, I agree to adhere to all requirements of Assistance Dogs Australia and to be responsible for the care, feeding, and training of the canine placement during the period that the puppy is in my home. I will attend the regularly scheduled puppy classes held at Assistance Dogs Australia or an approved obedience training program in my community. I agree to return the puppy to Assistance Dogs Australia upon request.

Applicant signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent's signature (if under 18 years of age): _____