Can Do Canines

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Application Criteria for Owner-Provided Assistance Dog Team

Physical Criteria

- Your dog must be between 1 – 4 years of age.
- Your dog must be spayed or neutered prior to application.
- Within the last year, your dog must have had a complete physical examination and be current on core vaccinations or titers.
- Can Do Canines will obtain a reference from your veterinarian stating, based on your dog's temperament and health, he/she may be a candidate to be an Assistance Dog for you. Can Do Canines will require documentation of vaccinations/titers at this time.
- Your dog may be required to have OFA view x-rays of hips and elbows taken and or other health clearances specific to breed. This will only be required after application and temperament testing are complete. This is the final step before acceptance into the program. Can Do Canines will notify you of what will be necessary.

Training Criteria

- You and your dog must have completed at least two levels of obedience class within the last year with a trainer of your choice. It is recommended that you and your dog have passed the Canine Good Citizen test within the last year.
- Can Do Canines will obtain a letter of reference from your obedience trainer stating that, based on the temperament and training of your dog, he/she may be a candidate to be an Assistance Dog for you.
- Your dog must demonstrate the ability to perform at least one physical task which mitigates your disability.

Behavior Criteria

- Your dog must be confident and well-behaved in public situations and socialized to as many different exposures as possible. A public evaluation of team handling may be scheduled with Can Do Canines staff as part of the application process.
- Your dog must remain focused on you and show no signs of reactivity while in the presence in other dogs.
- Your dog may be required to pass a temperament evaluation, conducted at Can Do Canines' facility by Can Do Canines' employee(s). This would be scheduled with your client coordinator after home and public evaluations are complete.

Assistance Dog Criteria

- Your dog should be the only dog in the home, unless it can be demonstrated that the other dog(s) will not interfere with the assistance dog's tasks.