

SERVICES

AUTISM ASSISTANCE, COMPANION & THERAPY DOGS



Guide Dogs Tasmania has a high success rate of placing dogs as working guides for Tasmanians who are blind or vision impaired. Those not deemed suitable as Guide Dogs are considered for roles as Therapy or Companion Dogs. During the training process, we also assess dogs to see which dogs may be suitable for an Autism Assistance role.

Autism Assistance, Companion & Therapy Dogs make a profound difference to the lives of Tasmanians living with a disability, or in therapeutic environments. Each match is made through a comprehensive assessment process that takes the needs of both the dog, and applicant into consideration.

AUTISM ASSISTANCE DOGS

Guide Dogs Tasmania's Autism Assistance Dog program focuses on improving the quality of life of a child with Autism, and their family, through safety, independence and inclusion.

Our dogs are trained to benefit children who:

- are aged between 3 and 8 years old
- have a confirmed diagnosis of Autism
- have a deficit in verbal and non-verbal communication skills
- have limited to nil social interaction ability
- have frequent absconding tendencies

Autism Assistance Dogs have full public access rights.

THERAPY DOGS

Therapy Dogs are primarily used by organisations seeking to include Animal Assisted Therapies into their programs.

Therapy Dogs interact with people to offer feelings of wellbeing, or encourage rehabilitation through actual contact. Animals can provide a non-judgmental presence, encourage communication, and improve physical and/or emotional function.

Therapy Dogs do not have public access rights.

COMPANION DOGS

Companion Dogs improve the quality of life and autonomy of their handlers and become an important component to everyday life. Their companionship as well as abilities to aid with tasks can provide relief and reassurance to those who need it most.

Children with disabilities respond strongly to the comforting presence of a Companion Dog as an animal they can trust and special friend and guardian to help overcome the difficulties they face.

Companion Dogs do not have public access rights.

AUTISM ASSISTANCE, COMPANION & THERAPY DOGS

APPLICATION FORM

If completing this form for someone under the age of 18 please provide parent/guardian details where applicable.

Date:

Applicant's name:

Date of birth:

Residential Address:

.....

Phone number: (M) (H) (W)

Email:

Are you, or any members of your family currently VisAbility or Guide Dogs Tasmania clients? **Yes / No**

Names and ages of household members

For additional household members, please add to a page overleaf or attach another sheet to this application.

Name: Date of birth:

Name: Date of birth:

Name: Date of birth:

Name: Date of birth:

Do you, or anyone in your household, have a disability? **Yes / No**

If yes, please provide a summary below, and attach any additional information (i.e. supporting medical documentation, referrals etc.)

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Which type of dog are you interested in?



Therapy Dog (for organisations seeking to include Animal Assisted Therapies into their programs)

Autism Assistance Dog (for children aged between 3 and 8 years old, diagnosed with Autism)

Companion Dog (for a child or person living with a disability)

Retired/Older Dog (A retired Guide Dog)

Pet Dog

Occupation and hours worked by household members:

.....
.....

Is everyone in the household happy to have a Autism Assistance, Companion or Therapy Dog?
Please give reasons as to why:

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.....

Are you an experienced dog owner? **Yes / No**

Do you currently have a dog? **Yes / No**

If yes, please provide details:

Breed: Age: Sex: Neutered **Yes / No**

Where does your dog sleep?

.....

Does your dog spend time indoors?

.....

How often do you walk your dog?

.....

Does your dog attend obedience classes? **Yes / No**

Is your dog regularly wormed and vaccinated? **Yes / No**

Do you have any other pets? **Yes / No**

If yes, please provide details:

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Is your property adequately fenced (dog proof)? **Yes / No** Type: Height:

**Thank you for taking the time to complete this form. Please return to Guide Dogs Tasmania:
info@guidedogstas.com.au 164 Elizabeth St Hobart TAS 7000**

A fee will be incurred for the purchase of a Companion or Therapy Dog. This will be assessed at time of matching.
For these dogs, this application will remain valid for 12 months from day of submission.