



## PAWSOME ASSISTANCE DOGS REQUIREMENTS FOR ASSESSMENT FOR PUBLIC ACCESS TRAINING

**Initial Assessment of the Team involves the following: -**

1. There is a demonstrated bond between the Handler and the Dog: -
  - a) There must be no aggression in the training or control of dog by the Handler.
  - b) The dog shows a developing/developed focus on the Handler for directions and reinforcement of good behaviour, or indication of unacceptable behaviour.
  - c) They are able to demonstrate both the Handler and Dog, are safe and effective as a Team in public.
2. Be able to demonstrate the Dog can be controlled by the Primary Handler, or if required, jointly by the Primary and Alternate Handler. The dog needs to be walking calmly and with focus on the Handler, not dragging the Handler, or lunging frequently or unprovoked at other dogs. The dog cannot be reactive. It must not be aggressive – growling, snarling, showing teeth, raising hackles, biting etc.
3. The dog must not show fear of the Handler, Public places or environments, people, children, or equipment.

4. The dog must not show signs of Guarding or be territorial towards the Handler, People, Possessions, Food. The exception being if the Dog is alerting or protecting the Handler during a medical episode.
5. The Dog must respond to basic commands such as Sit, Stand, Down, Stay, Heel, and walk on a loose lead. It must be able to hold a sit/stay, or down/stay, for 20 seconds. The Dog must also be able to hold position, while the Handler walks a distance from it, and then for the dog to be recalled to the Handler. The dog is not off lead during this task. It is done with a long dropped lead, approximately the length of two standard leads.
6. The Dog must be able to be controlled by another person.
7. As a Team in public, both Handler and Dog need to present with cleanliness, professionalism, moderated behaviour and etiquette around people and other dogs/animals.
8. The Dog must be toilet trained. The Handler must be able to either have the dog toilet on command, or be able to know the signs that the dog needs to be removed to an appropriate location for toileting
9. The Handler needs to train the dog for safe entry and exit of vehicles, buildings, or other environments, by following their guidance and commands.
10. Commands and control of the dog can be verbal, hand signals, or a combination of both. The words used for each task is at the Handler's discretion, the Handler needs to be able to demonstrate that the dog understands the expectation attached to the word or hand signal.
11. Small dogs, whilst being permitted to be carried in certain environments, must still be able to walk on a loose lead with attention on the Handler. Small dogs, being carried in strollers, carriers or trolleys, must still be able to pass all the assessment requirements, but additionally, they must be able to show they can be controlled and work from the location of the pram, trolley, carrier etc, to support the Handler's needs. Small dogs may be lifted in and out of vehicles, but must still display control and obedience.

Below is a more detailed explanation of the full Public Access Assessment.

## ASSESSMENT BY ITEMS

ITEM	KEY ACTIVITY	BREAK DOWN
ITEM 1	Controlled load/unload public/private transport	Waits/is under control/ignores other dogs & people/use lift, escalator, or travelator if possible
ITEM 2	Approaching a Building	Calm/Heeled/Stopped with Handler
ITEM 3	Controlled Entry/Exit from Building	Waits for command to enter/exit/ returns to heel
ITEM 4	Buildings - Heeling/not using furniture	Heels/focused/nonobtrusive/manoeuvres/under control
ITEM 5	Sits on Command	Prompt response/ignores trolleys etc/holds position
ITEM 6	Downs on Command	Prompt response/ignores trolleys etc/holds position
ITEM 7	Noise Distraction	No fear/aggression/or ongoing distraction/startle is acceptable
ITEM 8	Restaurant	Unobtrusive/out of passage ways/ignores food service/ignores people/quiet
ITEM 9	Food Leave	Ignores food/ is not distracted by food/holds position when food is dropped
ITEM 10	2 metre Recall	Controlled/focused/holds position/returns quickly to Handler
ITEM 11	Drop Lead & Retrieve	Handler can drop and retrieve lead whole dog holds position
ITEM 12	Interactions with Strangers	Can be taken by a stranger/patted by a child/ignores other dogs/nonaggressive or fearful
ITEM 13	Team Relationship	Controlled/Responsive/Correct Equipment/positive reinforcement/friendly & confident