



POTENTIAL THERAPY DOGS



TRAINING NEEDS

Red items are strongly recommended / required. Optional items are in black.

Potty Training

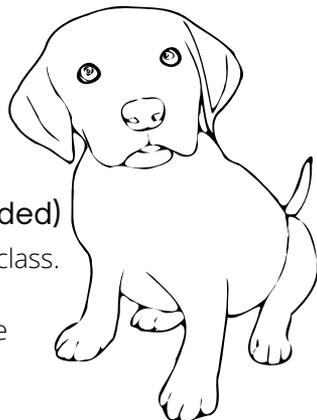
Covered in a private class. Potty training, Chewing, How to ring potty bells, and discussion about toys, chews and food (best if completed before, or soon after receiving the puppy)

Beginner Obedience Class

Covers: Energy management, jumping, chewing, sit, watch, down, leave it, drop it, take it, sitting politely for petting, leash walking, come when called, stay, and tricks. 6-week course meeting one hour a week. (Best begun between age 10-16 weeks old)

AKC Registration

Dog registered with AKC in Canine Partners, Purebreds, or non-AKC purebreds categories



AKC Star Puppy Test (Optional but recommended)

Can be completed upon finishing beginner obedience class. Test costs \$15.00 to be done by the trainer, then an additional \$20 sent to the AKC for medal and certificate

Intermediate Obedience Class

Covers: Working on any issues with loose leash walking, Stand, Back up, Walking with other dogs, Door manners, Touch. 3-week course meeting one hour a week.

Advanced Obedience Class

Covers: Place, Target, Sit with Distractions, Heel, Advanced Stay, Stay with distractions, Come with distractions, Advanced leave it, Supervised separation, door manners. 6-week course meeting one hour a week.

AKC Canine Good Citizenship Test (Optional but recommended)

Dog is recommended to be 1 year old before completing this test. Test cost \$15.00 to be completed by the trainer, than an additional \$20 sent to the AKC for certificate and title

Therapy Dog Test

After a dog is capable of passing the AKC Canine Good Citizenship test, they are capable of passing a therapy dog test, which qualifies them as a therapy dog. We most often test for Love on a Leash, but will test for any therapy dog company you choose.

Therapy Dog Membership

Once passing a therapy dog test, your dog will need to maintain membership. Here is what Love on a Leash provides as an example.

LOAL provides the insurance coverage. There is no additional charge for insurance if the dog is working under their name and all procedures are followed to the letter. I do not know if the insurance rules are different for an on-site therapy dog as opposed to one who is visiting. A call to their office would be needed. The dog must pass the test, done by an AKC evaluator. <http://www.loveonaleash.org>

Reading Education Assistance Dog Program (READ) (Optional)

This is not required to be a therapy dog and READ only provides education and resources to certified therapy dog teams who want to do work in reading support roles. Pet must be certified by a nationally recognized therapy group (either Intermountain Therapy Animals affiliate or AKC recognized), such as LOAL. Order READ training package which includes a textbook and videos: \$79.00 There are expectations and tips for dog behavior in READ roles, but no test is required of the animal.

After completing the training materials, including a substantial written test, application is made with a lifetime membership fee of \$60.00, or \$50.00 if applicant is in an ITA affiliate group (which LOAL is not). It is required to remain current in annual membership registration with a pet therapy organization (LOAL, for example). http://www.therapyanimals.org/Read_Team_Steps.html

AKC Therapy Dog Title (Optional)

This is not required by LOAL or any therapy dog organizations. Must be in an AKC recognized therapy dog group, such as LOAL. Must have dog registered with AKC in Canine Partners, Purebreds, or non-AKC purebreds categories. Then, \$25 for each title application.

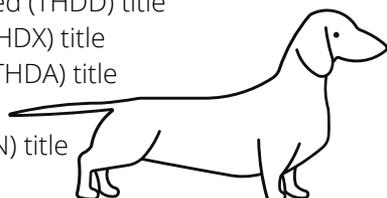
400 visits to earn the AKC Therapy Dog Distinguished (THDD) title

200 visits to earn the AKC Therapy Dog Excellent (THDX) title

100 visits to earn the AKC Therapy Dog Advanced (THDA) title

50 visits to earn the AKC Therapy Dog (THD) title

10 visits to earn the AKC Therapy Dog Novice (THDN) title



<https://www.akc.org/sports/title-recognition-program/therapy-dog-program/>