

# ASSISTANCE DOG SKILLS ASSESSMENT COURSE POLICIES

## **Terminology**

Dog – Any dog being handled by a client and working towards any of the Assistance Dog courses.

Assistance Dog Prospect/in Training\* – Any dog learning how to be an Assistance Dog.

Assistance Dog\* – Any dog that the handler considers to have completed their training to be an Assistance Dog. This includes general behaviour, working behaviour and tasking.

Public Access – Any area where a pet dog would not ordinarily be allowed.

## **Evidence**

All Assistance Dog courses require the submission of disability evidence. Acceptable formats: PAWtected template, disability related benefit letter or diagnosis letter.

## **Identification**

Dogs must be appropriately labelled when doing public access work in submissions.

Terminology such as Service Dog, Emotional Support Dog or Therapy Dog must be avoided.

## **Insurance**

PAWtected advises that all dogs are appropriately insured for third party liability. If you do not wish to insure your dog, please contact us before starting the course.

## **Tasks**

PAWtected believes dogs should be able to perform a minimum of 3 tasks which mitigates their handler disability. These are required for completion of our courses.

Where a dog is performing physical mobility tasks (e.g. counterbalance), they must be signed off by a vet to do so. PAWtected may ask for evidence of this.

## **Membership**

You must not state or suggest that you are a PAWtected member.

\* These terms and definitions relevant for this document only. There is no legal requirement for an Assistance Dog to have any formal training or qualifications.

PAWtected reserves the right to change these policies. Notification of change will be made on our Moodle platform, website and social media platforms.

Please contact enquiries@pawtected.co.uk for full copies of any of our policies/procedures.