

SERVICE DOG PROGRAM

REQUIREMENTS



Frederick Family Dog Training LLC ("FFDT") dba Service Dogs Iowa, is a private, family owned training company specializing in service dogs and therapy dogs. Because we are a private trainer, we issue our own Certificates and hold our standards to or above the American Kennel Club, Assistance Dogs International, APDT, and other training organizations. FFDT is an approved AKC evaluator, and we utilize the AKC Canine Good Citizen Program, as well as specialized skills/tasks, in our working dog requirements and foundational skills. We also hold accreditation through the International Association of Animal Behavior Consultants as an accredited dog trainer, and through the Animal Behavior College as a certified service dog trainer and contracted mentor trainer. We are professional members of APDT International and maintain LIMA compliance throughout our training programs and practices.

We train using "The FFDT Way", a pending trademark training method, combining canine behavior and science with human behavior and science. We practice positive reinforcement, science based training and believe in the human and canine connection.

- Basic Obedience and Foundational Skills
- FFDT Basic12 List Mastered
- Service Dog 12 List
- AKC Home Manners or equivalent
- AKC Canine Good Citizen
- AKC Community Canine and/or Urban or equivalent
- Public Access Test, tested by Service Dogs Iowa
- Acceptance into Service Dogs Iowa's program
- \$450 Enrollment Fee
- Service Dog Program Chosen: Program A or Program H
- Service Dogs Iowa Agreement Signed
- Intake Appointment
- Service Dog Important Skills List
- Up-to-date on all vaccinations required by state law
- Letter from doctor on need/approval for service dog
- Dog registration if required by city/county/state
- AKC Registration if titling (see "Additional Testing Page" for more information on AKC Titling)
- Minimum age at graduation: 18 months (*can begin training any age*)
- Spayed/Neutered
- Task training specific to handler needs
- Minimum eight lessons with FFDT trainer
- Minimum completion of one Intensives (total of 10 hours) within nine months of enrollment
- Minimum twelve successful documented public outings done on own (lessons not included)
- Minimum six group trains (two are included in enrollment)
- Minimum two handler workshops
- Demonstrated impulse control and ability to function with distractions
- Free from inappropriate reactivity, aggression, and behavior problems
- Minimum: One annual Service Dog maintenance lesson post-graduation for the successive three years

PAY AS YOU GO

SERVICE DOG PROGRAM A



Program A allows you to pay for your service dog training as you go through the program. Program A is flexible in scheduling, and lessons are not at set intervals. The time frame for completion in Program A varies between one and four years depending on your desired scheduling and progress. Program A pays for the enrollment separately from lessons. For training, the Pay-As-You-Go Track is often paid for in sets of "FFDT Four." Pay-As-You-Go still requires a minimum of one Intensive . Additional Group Train Days are encouraged as well as Mini Intensives. Program follows a Flexible Schedule.

BASIC OBEDIENCE	FFDT's Basic 12 Commands, general obedience and listening skills, solid foundational skills set.
CANINE GOOD CITIZEN (ALL LEVELS)	AKC's Canine Good Citizen program has test items that showcase a dog's ability to be a "good citizen" while in public. There are three levels of CGC - CGC, Community Canine, and Urban Canine. The Service Dog Program tests all three. FFDT is an approved evaluator for the AKC. After passing each test, clients have the option to pursue official titling with the AKC. They will also receive an official AKC Ribbon. Lapel pins and Rosettes are available, but at an additional cost.
PUBLIC ACCESS SKILLS & TESTING	Public Access skills are seventeen skills that a service dog will undergo on a consistent basis. These skills are a step above the CGC skills, and are only required for Service Dogs. After passing the PAT, clients receive a Public Access Pin from Service Dogs Iowa.
TASK TRAINING	Task Training is unique to each individual team, though there are some skills that are common amongst service dogs. Some dogs have many tasks, while other have just a few. Refer to your individual Task Sheet and/or the Common Tasks document for tasks.
SERVICE DOG SPECIFIC COMMANDS & SKILLS	Commands and Cues such as "Settle", "Back-up", "Head down", etc. are common service dog skills that all FFDT Service Dogs learn. Refer to the Service Dog Important Skills document and Service Dog Commands list for a list of commands and skills.

PAY AS YOU GO

SERVICE DOG PROGRAM A



Below is a list of anticipated costs associated with Program A.

SERVICE DOG PROGRAM ENROLLMENT FEE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$450 enrollment fee• Includes the FFDT testing fees for all levels of Canine Good Citizen and the Public Access Test• Includes two group trains• Includes one Gentle leader OR Easy Walk harness• Includes Basic vest and patches• Includes one dual handle leash
FFDT FOUR (LESSON PACK)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$460 per four 60-minute lessons• Basic Obedience/Basic 12, CGC oriented, Public Skills, or Task Oriented training
INTENSIVE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Intensive Program: \$1400• At least one intensive is required in the program.• Ten hours worth of Intensive training• Mini Intensive, optional but encouraged (5 hours at a time)
GROUP TRAINS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• At least six group trains are required. Two come with the enrollment fee• Additional group trains are \$50/group• Group Train Punch Passes (6 groups): \$250
WORKSHOPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Handler-only training• At least two handler workshops are required• Single Workshop \$20/workshop• Workshop Punch Passes (6 workshops): \$100
TRAVEL FEES, IF APPLICABLE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$30+ per lesson• A travel fee is assessed per lesson for training outside of our "travel zone" (viewable on our website)• Travel fees must be paid in advance of training.

THE FFDt BASIC 12

BASIC OBEDIENCE SKILLS



SIT	The dog sits on bum and back legs.
COME	The dog will come to whomever called him or her.
LAY DOWN	The dog lays all the way down with legs and belly on the ground. This can be at a square lay down or a settle.
STAY	The dog stays in the exact location the owner places it in. The dog does not release until told.
WAIT	The dog can have it, do it, or go there – just not yet. The dog utilizes self regulation skills and waits for further instructions.
LOOK	The dog focuses and looks at owner, waiting for further instructions.
GO TO BED/SPOT/PLACE	The dog goes to the designated location willingly and waits there until further instructions.
LEAVE IT	The dog does not have access to it – ever.
DROP IT	The dog releases/drops whatever is in it's mouth.
OFF	4 Paw Rule: All four paws come to the ground. The dog gets off of whatever it was on.
LOOSE LEASH WALKING	The dog walks at a relative heel/side position with a nice “J” shape in the leash. The dog does not try to pull.
SOCIALIZATION	Socialization is the environment as a whole: dogs, people, sounds, critters, smells, sights, experiences, etc.

AKC CANINE GOOD CITIZEN

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB



SITTING POLITELY FOR PETTING	The dog will allow a friendly stranger to approach it and speak to the handler in a natural, everyday situation.
ACCEPTING A FRIENDLY STRANGER	The dog will allow a friendly stranger to pet it while it is out with its handler.
APPEARANCE AND GROOMING	The dog will welcome being groomed and examined and will permit someone, such as a veterinarian, groomer or friend of the owner, to do so.
OUT FOR A WALK/WALKING ON A LOOSE LEAD	The handler/dog team will take a short "walk" to show that the dog is in control while walking on a leash.
WALKING THROUGH A CROWD	The dog and handler walk around and pass close to several people (at least three) to demonstrate that the dog can move about politely in pedestrian traffic and is under control in public places.
SIT & DOWN ON COMMAND WITH STAYING IN PLACE	The dog will respond to the handler's commands to 1) sit, 2) down and will 3) remain in the place commanded by the handler (sit or down position, whichever the handler prefers). (20 foot lead)
COMING WHEN CALLED	The dog will come when called by the handler. The handler will walk 10 feet from the dog, turn to face the dog, and call the dog. (minimum 10 feet)
REACTION TO ANOTHER DOG	To demonstrate that the dog can behave politely around other dogs, two handlers and their dogs approach each other from a distance of about 20 feet, stop, shake hands and exchange pleasantries, and continue on for about 10 feet.
REACTION TO DISTRACTION	To demonstrate the dog is confident when faced with common distracting situations, the evaluator will select and present two distractions. Examples of distractions include dropping a chair, rolling a crate dolly past the dog, having a jogger run in front of the dog, or dropping a crutch or cane.
SUPERVISED SEPARATION	This test demonstrates that a dog can be left with a trusted person, if necessary, and will maintain training and good manners. Evaluators are encouraged to say something like, "Would you like me to watch your dog?" and then take hold of the dog's leash. The owner will go out of sight for three minutes.

PAY AS YOU GO

SERVICE DOG PROGRAM: EXAMPLE PHASES



EXAMPLE

PHASE 1

- Find/Evaluate potential service dog
- Acceptance into Program
- Enrollment/Agreement
- Intake Meeting
- FFDT must have doctors letter on file before beginning any lessons

PHASE 2

- Home Manners
- Basic Obedience
- Basic 12
- Foundational Skills

PHASE 3

- Canine Good Citizen (CGC)
- Community Canine/CGC Advanced
- CGC-Urban
- Public Access Testing
- In-person Visit and Training

PHASE 4

- Task Training, as defined by FFDT/Client
- All SD requirements met and tested
- Testing ALL SD skills
- In-person Visit and Training

PHASE 5

- Graduation
- Post-graduation annual lessons: min. 3 years post graduation

NOTES

- Phases 2-4 can be trained simultaneously if dog is mature enough and handling training well
- Program H also follows a Pay-as-you-go style schedule
- Workshops and group trainings are encouraged throughout all phases
- See additional documents on Program H details

FREDERICK FAMILY DOG TRAINING LLC LESSON DESCRIPTIONS AND COSTS

UPDATED JANUARY 2026



Below is a list of all service and lesson descriptions and costs of Frederick Family Dog Training LLC. All lessons, Intensives, and group train options are valid for one calendar year from Month of purchase to the following year, same month.

Consultation - \$50	For non-working dog potentials (general clients), a consultation is required to obtain baselines, goals, etc.
FFDT Four - \$460	A set of four lessons of any kind.
Evaluation - \$80	All dogs must undergo an evaluation to be accepted into our Service Dog or Therapy Dog Program.
Dog Finder Service - \$150+	FFDT can help find you a dog to fit your needs. Fee required prior to search. Family dog - \$150+ Service or Therapy dog - \$200+
Service Dog Enrollment - \$450	Enrollment into our Service Dog Program, covering cost of basic gear/equipment, testing fees, and two required group trains.
Therapy Dog Enrollment - \$225	Enrollment into our Therapy Dog Program, covering cost of basic gear/equipment, testing fees, and two required group trains. Service dogs do have the option to dual enroll. Talk to FFDT directly about this option.
Group Punch Pass - \$250	A punch pass of six group trains.
Workshop Punch Pass - \$100	A punch pass of six workshops.
Intensives - \$1400	The Intensive Program is a lot of training, packed into a shorter amount of time. A trainer from FFDT will take your dog for the selected hours, and return them to you after that block of time. Intensives Program: 2 hrs/5 days in a row: \$1400 Other Intensives available: Mini Intensives: 1-1.5 hrs Intensive, 2-3 days in a row or 5 days in a row - Contact FFDT directly for pricing for Mini's <i>Please note: The Service Dog Program requires the full Intensives; the Mini does not count towards the program, though they are beneficial.</i>
Single Lesson - \$165 Single Group Train - \$50 Single Workshop - \$20	A single lesson of any kind. A single group train. A single workshop.

FREDERICK FAMILY DOG TRAINING LLC

LESSON TYPES

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026



BASIC/FOUNDATIONAL	One-on-one lesson focused on basics and foundational skills
WORKING DOG LESSON	One-on-one lesson focused on therapy dog skills or service dog skills
LIFESTYLE	One-on-one lesson with FFDT trainer training alongside your daily life living
TAKE & TRAIN	A lesson in which a trainer from FFDT picks up, trains, and drops off your dog
DAY TRAIN	An extended lesson (3+ hours) in which a trainer from FFDT picks up, trains, and drops off your dog
GROUP TRAIN	Training with other dogs and owners in a group setting
WORKSHOP	Handler only workshops for service dog and/or therapy dog handlers
INTENSIVES	Training in which FFDT will pick up, train, and drop of your dog. Training is done in an intensive manner, putting a lot of training into a shorter amount of time. Scheduled 2-5 days in a row.
EVALUATION	To evaluate a dog for potential service work or therapy work
CONULT LESSON	To allow FFDT trainer(s) to get to know you, your dog, your dog's learning style, current baselines, behaviors, and set goals
VIRTUAL	A one-on-one recorded zoom skills training session, 60 minutes
ZOOMIES	A one-on one virtual Q&A style training, 30 minutes

ADDITIONAL TESTING INFO

SERVICE DOGS IOWA



As described above, Service Dogs within Service Dogs Iowa's Service Dog Program undergo many tests on their journey to becoming a service dog.

More details on the AKC's Community Canine and Urban test can be found on our website, on the official AKC website, but will be given to you upon enrollment in the program

The Public Access Test issued by Service Dogs Iowa is a test of seventeen essential skills for a service dog in public. This list, as well as an extensive description of each test item will be given to you once in the program.

Task descriptions will be defined and found within the client's intake paperwork, and discussed in detail at the intake meeting, as well as throughout the journey

The reason we do not provide you with the details of the above right away is only to help with information overwhelm. We are an open book about all testing items, techniques and methods of training, and everything related to our service dog program; however, we know that the information can be overwhelming. Rest assured, we are with you every step of the way, and it is our goal to make the process as seamless and simple as possible.

Other titles and testing options available as a fun and enriching activity for dog and owner are AKC Trick Dog Novice-Performer, AKC Virtual Home Manners, AKC Fit Dog, and AKC Fetch. These are all optional, yet a fun and engaging bonding opportunity with dog and owner.

*AKC Registration is required if you want your dog to be on record with the American Kennel Club with their CGC titles. FFDT does not require the dog to have official CGC titles, but it is highly recommended. The AKC has their own fees for official titling.