

THERAPY DOG PROGRAM



The Frederick Family Dog Training LLC's (FFDT) Therapy Dog Program evaluates, trains, and helps facilitate therapy dog visits within our local communities. Whether the therapy dog is visiting assisted living homes, working full time at an elementary school, becoming a reading dog, an animal assisted therapist, working at a counseling office, or visiting many locations, the benefits of a therapy visits from our canine friends is needed, important, and life changing for everyone involved. FFDT's Therapy Dog Program offers both general and specific therapy dog training as part of a through process to help owners and their evaluated dogs bless the lives of our community by bringing joy, love, and comfort to individuals and organizations through well mannered, well tempered, and well trained therapy dogs.

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 Therapy Dog Program tests the Canine Good Citizen and the Community Canine 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.
Therapy Dog Specific Skill Training	Each FFDT therapy dog Refer to the Working Dog Important Skills document and Therapy Dog Commands list for a list of possible commands and skills.
Therapy Dog Specific Commands & Skills	Commands and Cues such as "Settle", "Back-up", "Head down", etc. are common working dog skills that all FFDT Working Dogs learn. Refer to the Working Dog Important Skills document and Therapy Dog Commands list for a list of possible commands and skills.

REQUIREMENTS

FFDT THERAPY DOG PROGRAM



At Frederick Family Dog Training LLC (known as FFDT from this point forward), we are a private trainer specializing in working dogs such as service, therapy, and emotional support. Because we are a private trainer, we issue our own Certificates and hold our standards to or above the American Kennel Club, Therapy Dogs International, APDT, IACP, 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 a accredited dog trainer, and the Animal Behavior as a certified service dog trainer, and are professional members of the APDT and IACP.

- Basic Obedience and Foundational Sills
- FFDT Basic12 List Mastered
- AKC Home Manners or equivalent
- AKC Canine Good Citizen Test
- AKC Community Canine Test
- Evaluation and Acceptance into FFDT Therapy Dog Program
- \$200 Enrollment Fee
- Therapy work defined, if applicable
- Therapy Dog Agreement Signed
- FFDT Working Dog Important Skills List
- Up-to-date on all vaccinations required by state law
- Dog registration if required by city/county/state
- AKC Registration if titling (see “Additional Testing Page” for more information on AC Titling)
- Minimum Age: 1 year (can begin training sooner)
- Spayed/Neutered
- Therapy dog skills, general and/or specific to environment
- Minimum four lessons with FFDT trainer
- Minimum three working lessons (FFDT specialist present; may use as part of twenty-five documented visits)
- Two observations completed at end of program
- Recommended: Intensives2
- Minimum twenty-five successful documented therapy dog visits while in training
- Minimum two group trains (included in enrollment)
- Demonstrated impulse control and ability to function with distractions
- Free from inappropriate reactivity, aggression, and behavior problems
- Must document at last one therapy dog visit every six months to remain active as an FFDT Therapy Dog.
- One annual Therapy Dog observation post-graduation for duration of active therapy dog work life

THERAPY DOG PROGRAM



PHASE 1

- Find/Evaluate potential therapy dog
- Acceptance into Program
- Enrollment/Agreement
- Therapy dog tasks defined, if applicable

PHASE 2

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

PHASE 3

- Canine Good Citizen (CGC)
- Community Canine/CGC Advanced
- Begin visits as a therapy dog in training, including working dog visits

PHASE 4

- Therapy Dog Skills training
- Specific therapy skills, if applicable
- Testing all therapy dog skills, remaining tests, etc.
- Two observations

PHASE 5

- Graduation
- Post-graduation annual observations
- One visit documented every six months to remain in Active Status

NOTES

- Phases 2-4 can be trained simultaneously if dog is mature enough and handling training well
 - Therapy Dog teams are defined as one dog + one handler
 - It is recommended to have your ID card with you during visits
-

THERAPY DOG PROGRAM



Below is a list of anticipated costs associated with the Therapy Dog Program

THERAPY DOG ENROLLMENT FEE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Includes the FFDT testing fees for all levels of Canine Good Citizen and other sills testing fees from ffdt• One Gentle leader or Easy Walk harness• Bandana ad ID Card• Two observations at end of program
FFDT FOUR	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Basic Obedience/Basic 12, CGC oriented, Therapy Skills, Working Lesson• \$425/four 60-minute lessons
INTENSIVE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Intensives can be done as an Intensives2 or Intensive4.• Recommended, not required• \$1225/\$1375 or \$2500/\$2750
GROUP TRAINS & WORKSHOPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• At least two group trains are required. These come with the enrollment.• Additional group trains are \$25/group• Group Train Punch Passes (6 groups): \$125• Annual Unlimited: \$550
ANNUAL OBSERVATIONS: ACTIVE THERAPY DOG STATUS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One observation annually is required to remain in active ffdt therapy dog status.• \$40/year, billed on graduation date; can request to stop active status at any time in writing and you will no longer b billed annually or listed as active.• 30-45 minute observation
PRIVATE LIABILITY INSURANCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It is recommended that each therapy dog team acquires their own private liability insurance. You ae only covered if in the presence of FFDT owner, or at an official FFDT sanctioned event.

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 slay 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 do can have it, do it, or go there - just not yet. The dog utilizes self regulation skills and waits for futher 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 iwas 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.

ADDITIONAL TESTING INFO

THERAPY DOG PROGRAM



As described above, Therapy Dogs within the Frederick Family Dog Training LLC's Therapy Dog Program undergo many tests on their journey to becoming a therapy 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

If there are any specific therapy dog skills or therapy tasks needed for an individual therapy dog team, these will be defined after enrollment into the program. Most therapy dogs start as general therapy dogs, and then, if needed, add in a specialty, such as autism support therapy dog, or hospital therapy dog.

The reason we do not provide you with the details of the all above tests 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 therapy 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. You are able to view AKC's testing items on their website, as listed above.

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.