



Finding the Right Service Dog Candidate for You

What to look for in a Service Dog candidate:

- Outgoing – loves people and enjoys new experiences
- Has the ability to calm – can be active and busy but is happy to settle at your feet when you sit down
- Has the ability to be energized – can be a quiet dog, but also is happy to get up and do things when you do. Is not sluggish and moves readily when you get up and move around.
- Wants to be with you. Follows you around.
- Adult size will be between the weights of 25 pounds and 80 pounds. Dogs that are too small will get stepped on and dogs that are too big are difficult to manage in many places. Both will limit you instead of giving you more independence.
- Eager to please

You **DO NOT** want a dog that is:

- Timid, shy, jumpy – or that is fearful of sounds, sights and new experiences
- Submissive or excitement urinates, even if it is a puppy. Not all dogs outgrow this behavior.
- Does not like kids
- Is obsessed with chasing cats or kills cats
- Aggressive
- Dog Reactive – barks, growls or lunges at other dogs on leash
- Not healthy or has a disability itself
- Protective or possessive

Puppies and dogs behave differently when they are in a group. Test your puppy/dog away from the other dogs.