



To Medical Practitioner

SPW would like to thank you for your co-operation in SPW process of your client and their dog in undertaking a self-trained assistance dog accreditation program with us.

Under the Queensland Guide, Hearing, and Assistance dog ACT 2009 (hereafter) the dog handler (your client) is required to undertake a health check as a person living with a disability need may change from year to year. The health check is part of Queensland Public Access Test requirements for the dog handler & assistance dog to gain access into Australian Public Areas. SPW annual Queensland PAT allows SPW training & assessment co-ordinator the ability to change the assistance dog assistive task the assistance dog complete on behalf of the dog handler due to their disability improving their quality of life.

It would be appreciated if could complete the form below and email to spw.dog@outlook.com

Client Details

Client name: _____

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Medical Practitioners Details

Medical practitioners name: _____

Business name: _____

Business address: _____

State or Territory: _____ Post code: _____

Contact number: _____

Email address: _____

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Medical practitioners Signature

Date: ____/____/20 ____

Assistance Dog Client Number _____

About your clients health

Your client would be able to self-train their own assistance dog with the support of their appointed SPW dog trainer:

Please circle one of the following Yes No

Under Queensland Guide, Hearing, and Assistance dog ACT 2009 (hereafter) the dog handler must have a medical condition in which an assistance dog would alleviate symptoms and only a medical practitioner can approve the dog handler to have an assistance dog.

Please list your clients medical conditions?

Example: PTSD

Please list how would your clients day to day life would improve with an assistance dog?

Example: an assistance dog would help alleviate their anxiety

What is assistance dog assistive tasks?

Assistive task are tasks the assistance dog will complete on behalf of the dog handler due to their disability. What assistive tasks and jobs can assistance dog do?

Some assistance dogs are taught more than 50 assistive tasks. The training for each dog is unique and depends on the personality of the dog and the type of assistive tasks that will best suit the current medical requirements of the dog handler.

The tasks that assistance dogs can be taught include:

- emotional support for the dog handler when in public areas
- security check of home before dog handler enters property
- pulling a wheelchair
- helping people to balance if they have walking difficulties
- turning on light switches
- moving the arms or legs of people who are paralysed
- opening and closing doors, drawers, and fridges
- assisting with making beds
- pushing pedestrian crossing buttons
- picking up clothing and helping take washing from a machine
- paying cashiers
- barking to alert their owners to danger
- alerting people to seizures (sometimes before they occur) or other medical issues, such as low blood sugar in a diabetic child
- finding and leading another person to the owner or affected child
- security for the dog handler when standing in a line of people

The benefits for dog handlers include a reduced need for carers, greater freedom, and self-confidence. They also enjoy the constant emotional support, companionship, and love of the animal.

Medical practitioners Signature

Date: _____/_____/20 ____

Assistance Dog Client Number _____

About assistance dog assistive tasks

Under Queensland Guide, Hearing, and Assistance Dog ACT 2009 (hereafter) the assistance dog is required to be assessed on 1-assistive task as part of the dog handlers & their assistance dog Queensland Public Access Test (PAT) requirements. Assistance Dogs International requires the assistance dog to be assessed on 3-assistive tasks. SPW assistance dogs will be assessed on a minimum 2-assistive tasks (SPW prefers 3+) as part of their annual Queensland PAT requirements.

Medical practitioner will discuss with their client, 2-3+ assistive tasks (fill in below) the assistance dog will complete on behalf of the dog handler, that will improve dog handlers daily quality of life. The client and their SPW appointed dog trainer will decide together which best suit their current medical needs.

Assistive medical task summary below:

1. Emotional Support – Compulsory Task 1

SPW believes this is the most important role of an assistance dog and is a **compulsory task**.

A person living with a disability has an assistance dog to help improve their daily quality of life. A trained assistance dog will be able to detect when the dog handler is showing signs of getting upset, and the assistance will distract or draw the dog handler’s attention away by placing a head, paw or barking distracting the dog handler thought process

• **Security Support**

a person living with a disability may feel unsafe when in public areas such as when standing in a line or at an ATM, a trained assistance dog will sit or stand behind the dog handler creating distance between the dog handler and the person behind

Popular with clients and commonly used as their 2nd assistive task

• **Mobility Support**

a person with a disability may not be able to collect item off the floor and a trained assistance dog will collect these items on behalf of the dog handler

• **Medical Alert**

a person with a disability may have to take medication and a trained assistance dog can alert the dog handler that they need to take their medication the same time every day

Medical Practitioners Certification that their client:

- 1. approval to have an assistance dog due to a medical condition
- 2. an assistance dog would assist to alleviate symptoms for the dog handler

Medical practitioners Signature

Date: _____/_____/ 20 ____

Assistance Dog Client Number _____