

1. CRITERIA

For those who wish to apply for a psychiatric assistance dog as part of our partnership programme, we recommend reviewing our criteria before completing an application form.



2. APPLICATION

Application forms are available on our website. Once complete, please email to our inbox for review at info@caninetherapyireland.com.



3. ZOOM CALL

Zoom call is organised for both parties if the application meets our criteria, to learn more about each other and to assess if a partnership is a viable option. Applicants then discuss further with household and confirm if they would like to move forward.



4. HOME VISIT

A home visit takes place with one or two dogs. This involves meeting all members of the household and going through the daily routine for the dog in training. All household members must be in agreement that they are happy to welcome a dog into the house on a full-time basis.



5. TRAINING SESSION

Applicants will then attend training sessions to learn skills, meet more dogs and other clients to gain insight into the lived experience and understanding of our three year training process. A final decision will be made about placement.



6. CONTRACTS

Confidentiality agreements are signed by the client before we issue information on the dog's first days, their routine, rules and regulations and other relevant training files.



7. PLACEMENT

The dog is then brought to the home, we will set up their sleeping area, and have a final session within the home answering any questions those in the household have. Once everyone is happy, the client will distract the dog as staff leave.



8. DECOMPRESSION

Once the dog is placed in the home, they will undergo a decompression stage. This involves creating a calm, low demand environment for the first 3 days (incl no visitors, walks or alone time). The first week will include foundation skills as the dog adjusts to their new environment.

