



Working Dogs For Vets is providing this information to help disabled veterans their service dog and business owners by way of education to avoid conflict.

We found by working with business owners many of them are supportive of veterans with our program as we provide them with the knowledge they need prior to bringing service dogs/ service dogs In training, to their establishment so that it will go smoothly.

What is a service dog? Service animals are defined as dogs that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities. Examples of such work or tasks include guiding people who are blind, alerting people who are deaf, pulling a wheelchair, alerting and protecting a person who is having a seizure, reminding a person with mental illness to take prescribed medications, calming a person with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) during an anxiety attack, or performing other duties. Service animals are working animals, not pets. The work or task a dog has been trained to provide must be directly related to the person's disability. Dogs whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support do not qualify as service animals under the ADA.

This definition does not affect or limit the broader definition of "assistance animal" under the Fair Housing Act or the broader definition of "service animal" under the Air Carrier Access Act.

Some State and local laws also define service animals more broadly than the ADA does. Information about such laws can be obtained from the State attorney general's office.

A service dog must be Under control. Under the ADA, service animals must be harnessed, leashed, or tethered, unless these devices interfere with the service animal's work or the individual's disability prevents using these devices. In that case, the individual must maintain control of the animal through voice, signal, or other effective controls.

What is a service dog in-training? A service dog in training is a dog that has completed basic obedience and is learning the tasks necessary to help their disabled partner. Service dogs in training with W.D.F.V. Programs have already passed public access testing. This helps to ensure public safety!

What is the A.D.A. Laws? Public access of a service dog is protected under the Federal Law.

Generally, title II and title III entities must permit service animals to accompany people with disabilities in all areas where members of the public are allowed to go.

- **When it is not obvious what service an animal provides, only limited inquiries are allowed.**

Staff may ask two questions: (1) is the dog a service animal required because of a disability, and (2) what work or task has the dog been trained to perform. Staff cannot ask about the person's disability, require medical documentation, require a special identification card or training documentation for the dog, or ask that the dog demonstrate its ability to perform the work or task.

- Allergies and fear of dogs are not valid reasons for denying access or refusing service to people using service animals. When a person who is allergic to dog dander and a person who uses a service animal must spend time in the same room or facility, for example, in a school classroom or at a homeless shelter, they both should be accommodated by assigning them, if possible, to different locations within the room or different rooms in the facility.
- A person with a disability cannot be asked to remove his service animal from the premises unless: (1) the dog is out of control and the handler does not take effective action to control it or (2) the dog is not housebroken. When there is a legitimate reason to ask that a service animal be removed, staff must offer the person with the disability the opportunity to obtain goods or services without the animal's presence.
- Establishments that sell or prepare food must allow service animals in public areas even if state or local health codes prohibit animals on the premises.
- People with disabilities who use service animals cannot be isolated from other patrons, treated less favorably than other patrons, or charged fees that are not charged to other patrons without animals. In addition, if a business requires a deposit or fee to be paid by patrons with pets, it must waive the charge for service animals.
- If a business such as a hotel normally charges guests for damage that they cause, a customer with a disability may also be charged for damage caused by himself or his service animal.
- Staff are not required to provide care or food for a service animal.

Where is a Service dog allowed? Under the ADA, State and local governments, businesses, and nonprofit organizations that serve the public generally must allow service animals to accompany people with disabilities in all areas of the facility where the public is normally allowed to go. For example, in a hospital it would be inappropriate to exclude a service animal from areas such as patient rooms, clinics, cafeterias, or examination rooms. However, it may be appropriate to exclude a service animal from operating rooms or burn units where the animal's presence may compromise a sterile environment. More information at: www.workingdogsforvets.org

ADA Website
www.ADA.gov

To receive email notifications when new ADA information is available, visit the ADA Website's home page and click the [link](#) near the top of the middle column.

ADA Information Line

800-514-0301 (Voice) and 800-514-0383 (TTY)

24 hours a day to order publications by mail.

M-W, F 9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m., Th 12:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. (Eastern Time)

to speak with an ADA Specialist. All calls are confidential.

For persons with disabilities, this publication is available in alternate formats.

Duplication of this document is encouraged. July 2011



What is the W.D.F.V. No Veteran Left Behind Program? Veterans who are physically able to help train their own service dog are teamed up with a local member of Law Enforcement, the military, active military or reserves throughout the U.S. Most are dog trainers and handlers and have many years experience. They are there for our veteran from start to finish. They help to evaluate and select a dog from the shelter and agree to spend time with the veteran each week to see how the team is coming along. The trainers already know how to teach basic obedience . We teach the volunteers, and the veterans how to train the dog to perform the tasks needed to be a service dog. Such as how to provide alerts to take medicine on time, blocking someone from approaching too fast, and removing our veterans from stressful situations. All we ask our veterans in return for this service is once their dog has completed all of their training & tests, They must be willing if able to help volunteer in training more service dogs for other veterans. This usually results in groups of local veterans who meet up at least once a week at a local park who help each-other in training their service dogs. And this is where the real medicine kicks in its veterans helping veterans. Therefore No Veteran left behind. Working Dogs for Vets is contacting active military members and Law Enforcement daily who have a great deal of experience with the dog's and a common bond with our veterans. This also makes it easier for the transition in training dogs for P.T.S.D. At this growth rate we hope to have trainers at every military base and in every city throughout the country within 3-5 years. This will completely eliminate the cost & waiting list for our veterans who are in need of a service dog and also greatly help with the shelters overpopulation problem.

No Veteran Left behind <https://www.facebook.com/WorkingDogsForVets>

Why do we do what we do? Many service dog programs who train service dogs for the disabled charge anywhere from \$5,000.00-\$20,000.00 and our government does not cover the cost. Many of our disabled veterans do not have the funds to cover this cost and even if they did the waiting lists for such programs is 3-5 years or longer. At Working Dogs For Vets, through the No Veteran Left Behind program, we do not charge our veterans and there is no waiting list. We provide information, volunteers, and support to help them to train their own service dog. We are a federal tax exempt 501c3 #47-2426504