

Alliance of Therapy Dogs

Dear Friend,

Thank you for your interest in membership with Alliance of Therapy Dogs (ATD). Qualifications for ATD begin with a friendly dog, any breed or mix, and an owner/handler who has a desire to share their dog with others in a volunteer capacity. Dogs must be at least one year of age to be tested and observed and the handler must have had a close relationship with the dog for at least six months prior to testing.

Our process begins with a background check. Given the world today, our focus must be on the safety of our clients and the facilities we visit. These background checks also ensure that we can keep our insurance premiums low and, thus, keep your yearly fees low.

Once you have completed your background check, you can test with one of our Tester/Observers in your area. This test includes basic handling skills first, and if you and your dog pass, you move to the next step of three supervised visits.

Upon successful completion, the following must be submitted for review and processing for membership:

- ✓ Proof that you have successfully completed the Sterling background check
- ✓ Completed Member Application and ATD Test
- ✓ Release of Claims form
- ✓ Correct membership fees
- ✓ Completed Health Verification Form
- ✓ Signed Rules Review
- ✓ Membership Fee

All these items must be completed and returned together to process your membership in a timely manner.

You must bring the items above to your initial test that you have scheduled with the Tester/Observer. Please also bring:

- ✓ Four foot or shorter leash and ATD approved collar (see ATD Member Guidelines)
- ✓ Water for dog (have available)
- ✓ Bag for clean-up (have available)
- ✓ Paper towels or towel (have available)

The application, test, and copy of our Important Rules and Guidelines are enclosed. A list of the Tester/Observers in your area, the link to begin the background check, and additional information like a video of our testing, presentations and forms are on our website: www.therapydogs.com/join-therapy-dogs/

We look forward to hearing from you!

Alliance of Therapy Dogs P.O. Box 20227, Cheyenne, WY 82003 1-307-432-0272, 1-877-843-7364 1-307-638-2079 (fax) office@therapydogs.com www.therapydogs.com

YOUR BACKGROUND CHECK

As a volunteer organization, we care about our program and the quality of the individuals who help us. ATD requires a background check for all prospective members, except junior member applicants, prior to being tested.

ATD feels it is an important process to assure we are bringing in members who are trustworthy. It is becoming a norm in our society to have volunteers go through a background check. It will provide the facilities we visit with a sense of comfort that our volunteers have been properly screened. Background checks prior to testing will also help to keep our insurance premiums low and, thus, keep your yearly fees low.

ATD has selected Sterling to run the background checks on our volunteers. All information about the process is on our website, www.therapydogs.com. The cost for the background check is \$20.00, which also allows you to share the results with other organizations. The first share with one other organization is free.

After you complete the background check, ATD will look over the results and notify you when you can begin the testing process. You will be sent a letter/email to present to the T/O who will be testing you and your dog.

You can complete your background check from the ATD website: www.therapydogs.com. Here are the steps:

- Go to www.therapydogs.com
- Click on Join
- Select Be a Member
- Scroll down and select Begin your Background Check
- Follow the directions to provide the necessary information to run the background check.

If you do not have computer access, please contact the office at 307-432-0272 or 877-843-7364.

Once the background check is completed, you will receive an email/letter confirming your eligibility to take the ATD test. You may then contact a Tester/Observer to begin the testing process. If, after one week, you do not receive emails confirming your application and then informing you of your eligibility status, check your computer's spam/junk mail folder.

If you still cannot find/did not receive the email, you may present to the Tester/Observer a printout of the first page of the "Confidential Background Check Report" (click the badge on your Sterling Volunteer page to access).

If there is any concern about the background check, you will be contacted by ATD for additional information.

ATD Important Facts, Rules and Guidelines to Know Before Testing

You are responsible for reading and knowing the guidelines below before completing your testing process In addition, if you pass testing, you will be required to know all the rules and guidelines in the Member Handbook that will be sent to you.

Incident or Injury

- If an incident or injury to an employee, resident, or visitor in the facility occurs while representing ATD:
- Immediately contact the facility's supervisor on duty.
- If the incident is a suspected bite, end the visit immediately.
- Document the incident on all required forms for the facility.
- Immediately contact the ATD office and report the incident. If after hours or during a weekend, please leave a voice message and make contact with the ATD office during the next business day.

Items Required on Visits

- Current membership card
- ATD red heard ID tag worn on collar, harness, vest or leash
- Written proof of dog's vaccinations carried with them or in the car

Your dog is your first priority

- While participating on an official ATD visit, handlers must have their attention on their dogs for the safety and welfare of their therapy dogs as well as those whom they visit.
- Do not become so comfortable that you become careless. Excuse yourself and your dog from any situation you do not believe will be a positive experience for all involved.
- Never put yourself or your dog in a questionable or threatening situation.
- Monitor the body language of your dog for signs of stress including but not limited to excessive panting; hiding behind you; shaking; jumping or climbing on you for security; yawning or changing facial expression; ears flat and tail tucked; looking to escape and refusing to socialize.

Dog equipment

- Equipment that is not allowed: clickers, retractable, elastic/bungee or chain leashes, pinch, prong, spiked or electronic collars and body halters or harnesses fastened with Velcro® or metal clothing snaps.
- Permitted equipment: slip, buckle, quick release, martingale, limited slip or any other smooth collars made of chain, nylon or leather; and head and body halters halters/harnesses made of fabric webbing or leather with metal or plastic buckles.
- The collar should fit snugly enough so the dog cannot easily back out of the collar or slip it off of his/her head. A slip collar should be correctly worn so it releases properly as designed.
- Dogs wearing a body halter/harness, or a head halter must also wear an approved collar. The leash may be attached to the collar, halter, or harness.
- Leashes must be 4 feet in length or shorter and made of material strong enough for the size/strength of the dog. The use of a traffic leash is recommended for large dogs.

Starting a visit

- The visit begins as soon as you reach the facility property, including the parking lot.
- The visit does not end until you leave the facility property.

Face-to-Face

- Do not allow your dog's face near a human's face.
- Facial kisses are not allowed.

Only handlers may handle their dogs •

Handlers must never leave their dogs alone with staff, patients, or visitors.

• Dogs must be kept on a 4-foot or shorter leash held only by the member/handler. The leash must be held by the member's hand at all times.

Dogs on laps/furniture

- The ATD member/handler must know and strictly adhere to the facility policy concerning dogs on any laps/furniture.
- This is for all furniture, including, but not limited to, chairs, couches, wheelchairs, beds, or physical therapy beds/pads. The handler must be in control of the dog's head at all times.
- Dogs over 15 pounds cannot be placed on laps
- Dogs under 50 pound can be placed on occupied furniture.
- All dogs may be placed on unoccupied furniture

Handler attire

- Skimpy or tight-fitting attire including short shorts, tank tops, and bare midriffs are not allowed.
- Wear sensible, safe walking shoes with backs or at least a strap around the heel (no flip-flops, high heels, spike heels or shoes without backs).

Two Foot Rule

- Dogs must be kept at least 2 feet from other dogs and animals at all times while on an ATD visit to discourage play, to give dogs enough personal space for focusing on the person being visited, and to prevent any interaction between dogs that could lead to an injury to a third party, the handlers or their dogs.
- If a dog prefers more than 2 feet, the handler should provide for the dog's needs. You are not covered by insurance if your dog is within 2 feet of another animal, including when posing for photos.

New Member Health Verification Form



Questions: (307) 432-0272,-877-843-7364 or office@therapydogs.com

Please complete this form prior to arriving at the handling portion of the test. This form must be submitted with your complete application packet for membership.

Handler/Prospective I	Member Name		
Ph#	Email		
Dog's Name			
Date of annual physic	al exam	(must be current v	within the last 12 months)
Date of <u>negative</u> feca	l exam	(must be current with	hin the last 12 months)
Date current rabies va	accination was give	n 1 yea	ır □ 3 year □
OR Rabies titer	titer level	(within the I	last 2 years and greater than or equal
0.5 IU)			
Veterinarian Name _			
Veterinarian City, Sta	te, Zip		
Veterinarian Phone _			
			nd it is believed that this dog is health annual physical exam listed above.
Required Veterinariar	Signature or Clinic	Stamp	 Date

ALLIANCE OF THERAPY DOGS

2021 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Existing member ID#

THIS APPLICATION MUST BE RECEIVED WITHIN SIX MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THE TEST

TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY IN INK *INDICATES REQUIRED INFORMATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

New member one handler/one dog team. Additional evaluated handlers or dogs in					
Minimum age for regular membership is 18 years.	Ages 12 through 17 may be te	ested for junior membership.			
*Full Legal Name					
*Mailing address					
*City	*State	*Zip Code			
*Day Telephone () *Email	Evening Telephone ()				
*Dog's Call Name	*Breed or Mix type				
Dog's date of birth if known, or approximate age (minimum 1 year):	Circle: Male	Female			
I would like a paper copy of the newsmagazine in lieu of a dig	ital copy.				
*** THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE REQUIRED	AND MUST BE INCLUDE	D FOR MEMBERSHIP***			
ATD DOCUMENTS:	☐Signed Rules	Review Form AND			
☐ Sterling Volunteers Background Check Proof of Eligibility (except for junior handlers and current members in good standing) AND ☐ Completed ATD Test and observations AND	□Fees AND PROOF OF DO				
☐ This completed application AND	☐Completed H	lealth Verification Form			
☐ Signed Release of Claims Form AND					
NOTE: A separate set of forms must be completed for each dog/h	nandler team.				
I certify that I have read, and I understand the ATD Rules and Reg I agree to abide by these regulations when working with my dog u heart-shaped ATD identification tag, and I understand that I will be visits under ATD's name. I shall not misrepresent my therapy dog restaurants, public building, stores, etc., or for any other reason. I a ATD. I understand that as an ATD member, I am required to make	under ATD's name. My dog will e covered for liability under AT as a service dog for the purpos agree to provide the required a	Il wear the official red ID's insurance while participating in se of gaining public access to planes, unnual veterinary care as set forth by			
APPLICANT SIGNATURE	*Date				
*Age of Applicant (if minor)					
*Signature of Parent/Guardian if applicable		*Date			
Please keep a copy of your application and test forms and send Alliance of Therapy Dogs, P.O. Box 20227, Cheyenne, WY 8200					

2021 Alliance of Therapy Dogs® Application

Phone: 877-843-7364 and website www.therapydogs.com

If you Overnight/Express the paperwork send to: 1919 Morrie Ave., Cheyenne, WY 82001

You can email the paperwork to: office@therapydogs.com we will confirm receipt & send a link to pay dues online.

ALLIANCE OF THERAPY DOGS 2021 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Explanation of Membership Fees

☐ Single membership fee (1 person/1 dog) One person/dog team is \$30 per year New member processing fee is \$10 per household Total due for this new team is \$40 Single membership fee (1 person/2 dogs) First person/dog team is \$30 Additional dog(s) is \$10 each New member processing fee is \$10 per household Total due for this person with 2 dogs is \$50 Two people in one household with one dog (2 people/1 dog) First person/dog team is \$30 Second person in the same household is \$10 New member processing fee is \$10 per household Total due for this household is \$50 Two people in one household with two dogs (2 people/2 dogs) First person/dog team is \$30 Second person in the same household is \$10 Second dog in the same household is \$10 New member processing fee is \$10 per household Total due for this household is \$60 ☐ Existing members Each additional dog or handler in the same household is \$10. You do not pay the membership fee or the processing fee again. Two members handling the same dog who do NOT live in the same household Each will pay the full membership fee of \$30 and \$10 for processing. Each person has their own account and will receive their own member packet and renewal.

One renewal date per household – October through March registrations will renew on January 1 of each year. April through September registrations will renew on July 1 of each year.

☐ Supporting membership (Membership without registered dog)

Total due for this person is \$20

RELEASE OF CLAIMS FOR ACCIDENTAL INJURY

I am aware of the inherent dangers of handling dogs in settings with people and with other dogs and I recognize the importance of following safety rules in all situations.

I understand that it is my responsibility to read, understand, and follow all Alliance of Therapy Dogs (hereinafter ATD) rules. I understand that it is not the purpose of ATD or its agents to serve as guardians of my safety or as guarantors of my responsibilities or liabilities. In consideration of the opportunity to apply for membership in ATD and other valuable consideration, I understand and guarantee that while I am participating in the ATD Test, including the observations, I am solely responsible for any injury, harm, or damage that may occur to those with whom I interact, my dog, my family or me and therefore absolve and hold harmless ATD, its officers, directors, members, agents, and/or employees from any liability and from any claim by me or my family or any other party arising out of my participation in this activity.

In consideration of membership in ATD and other valuable consideration, I release ATD from liability should injury, death, or damages occur to my dog, my family or me arising out of my involvement with ATD. I understand and guarantee that while I am participating as an ATD member, I am solely responsible for any incident that might occur should I fail to follow any and all ATD rules and therefore absolve ATD officers, directors, members, agents, or employees from any liability.

I shall indemnify ATD for any claims for damages against ATD by any third parties arising from any harm, injury, illness, death, property damage, or other damage while on ATD visits should I fail to follow any and all ATD rules. I also agree to pay ATD's reasonable costs and attorneys' fees in defending any claims and including attorney's fees and costs incurred to enforce the terms of this Agreement. I consent to the courts of Cheyenne, WY, having exclusive venue and jurisdiction over any disputes arising out of or in connection with this Agreement.

I further state that I am of lawful age and legally competent to sign this affirmation and release, or that my guardian has executed this release along with me. I understand these terms are contractual and I have signed this document as my own free act and deed and without fraud, force, or undue influence.

I have read the contents of this document, am fully informed of its contents and affirm that I understand its contents. In addition, I assume my own responsibility for my physical fitness in regard to my ability to perform the functions required for this activity.

To your knowledge, has this dog ever bitted If yes to this question, the membership p				
Are you the owner of this dog? Yes Nave you had a relationship with this dog		sNo		
Prospective Member				
Applicant Signature	Date Signed			
Print Full Legal Name	Date of Birth			
Address	City	State	Zip Code	

The prospective member must sign this document before testing. A release for each handler/dog team must be returned with ATD Test and Member Application to the ATD office.

2021 Alliance of Therapy Dogs® Member Release of Claims

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian (If applicable)

ATD Rules Review (Items to be discussed with the T/O)

- 1. What is the "2-foot" rule and why is it important?
- 2. May you allow your dog to kiss someone's face?
- 3. What do you do if your dog accidentally paws and scratches a patient? Whom do you notify?
- 4. In addition to an approved 4-foot or shorter leash, what must members have with them on a visit?
- 5. When does a visit begin and end?

T/O Signature

6. If you place your dog on a patient's bed for petting, what should you do? What part of the dog must you be sure to control at all times, especially if the dog is on occupied furniture?

I have discussed the above questions and other guidelines with the applicant.

170 Signature	
Date	
Print Name	
I have discussed the above questions and other guidelines with the T/O.	
Applicant Signature	
Date	
Print Name	

	2021 ALLIANCE OF THERAPY DOC * * * * MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE OFFICE WITHIN SIX MONTHS FROM THE		HE HANI	DLING	TEST *	**
App		Dog's Call Na				
Is th	is the first time being tested with this dog for ATD?			П	es	□No
If te	sted before, please indicate the approximate previous testing date(s):					
	The ATD test may be taken no more than three times with the same dog, Falsification of any information will result in men		•	in bet	ween 1	tests.
	IG TO THE TEST:					
	roof that you have successfully completed the Sterling Volunteers backgrous completed Health Verification Form	und check				
	EACH HANDLER/DOG TEAM MUST PASS ALL SECT	IONS OF TH	IIS TEST			
Han	dling Test Sections 1 – 9					Santa see la La see la
	Handler's attention to instructions: Handler arrived at testing appointme	nt with the fo	ollowing	requir	ed iter	ns:
	Did the handler bring an approved collar for the dog?			☐ Ye	es	□No
	Did the handler bring an approved 4 foot or shorter leash for the dog?			Ye	es	□No
	Was the handler clean and dressed appropriately, including correct footwo	ear?		☐ Ye	25	□No
	Comments:					
2	Initial meeting:					
	Was the handler in control?			Ye	es	□No
	Were the handler and dog polite?			☐ Ye	es	□No
	Was the dog corrected/redirected for inappropriate behavior?		NA	□Ye	es	□No
	Was the dog praised for good behavior?			☐ Ye	es	□No
	Was the dog clean and well groomed?			☐ Ye	<u>!</u> S	□No
	Comments:				ASS	FAIL
3.	Canine-human behavior: friendly stranger					
	Small dog held for testing*		NA	Ye	es.	□No
	Was the handler in control?			☐ Ye	s	□No
	Did the dog bark at person(s)?			☐ Ye	es	□No
	Was the dog interested in the person(s)?			☐ Ye	!S	□No
	Was any sign of aggression demonstrated?			☐ Ye	es	□No
	Was the dog corrected/redirected for inappropriate behavior?		NA	☐ Ye	:S	□No
	Did the handler praise the dog?			☐ Ye	!S	□No
	Comments:			ПР	ASS	FAIL
4.	Physical handling of the dog and dog's response:					
	Small dog held, lifted or carried for testing*		NA	☐ Ye	s	□No
	Stroking the head, body and tail with both hands		Acceptal	ole	Ur	nacceptable
	Touching the paws		Acceptal	ole	Ur	nacceptable
	Scratching/petting the throat		Acceptal	ole	Ur	nacceptable
	Holding the ears		Acceptak	ole	Ur	nacceptable
	Comments:	*		P	ASS	FAIL
*Anv	dog that might be held, lifted or carried during visits must also perform this exerci	se held by the	handler			

^{**}A dog too short to be reached for petting must have its front legs lifted or propped up for this exercise.

5.	Handler control of dog with a loose leash:				
	Team moving forward, changing pace between normal, slow and quick	☐ Yes	□No		
	Team making left and right turns and turning around	☐ Yes	□No		
	Stopping with dog staying calmly by the handler's side for 5 seconds	☐ Yes	□No		
	A person rushing past the team while in motion (from front/back/sides)	☐ Yes	□No		
	Near a person walking unsteadily*	☐ Yes	No		
	Team going up to a seated person for petting* **	☐ Yes	□No		
	Small dog held, lifted or carried for testing*	☐ Yes	□No		
	Comments:	PASS	FAIL		
6.	Canine-canine behavior:				
	NEVER allow the dogs to be closer than 2 feet or to stare at another dog. Small dog held, lifted or carried for testing*	Yes	□No		
	Was the handler in control?	Yes	□No		
	Did the dog bark at other dog(s)?	Yes			
	Was the dog interested in other dog(s)?	Yes			
	Was any sign of unprovoked aggression demonstrated?	Yes	□No		
	Was the dog corrected/redirected for inappropriate behavior?	Yes			
	Did the handler praise the dog?	Yes	□No		
	Comments:	PASS	FAIL		
7.	Dog's apparent responsiveness:				
"	Did the dog demonstrate a willingness to participate in the exercises?	☐ Yes	□No		
	If initially excited, did the dog calm down and begin to respond?	☐ Yes	□No		
	Did the dog exhibit signs of avoidance or stress during the test?	□ Yes	□No		
	Comments:	PASS	FAIL		
8.	Does the handler have the ability to safely handle this dog?	Yes	□No		
	Comments:	PASS	FAIL		
9.	Did the handler follow your instructions during the handling portion of the test?	☐ Yes	□ No		
	Comments:	PASS	FAIL		
Date	miniminiminiminiminiminiminiminiminimin	PASS	FAIL		
<u></u>	ER SIGNATURE	L PA33	L FAIL		
TEST	ER NAME (print)				
<u> </u>					
Com	ments:				
Testi	ng for an Exception?	☐ Yes	□No		
REQ	REQUIRED Specify the exception:				
	If testing for an exception application goes through Alternative Review Cor	nmittee			

Observations 1 – 4				jw.	
Applicant Full Legal Name					
Dog's Name					
 MINIMUM OF THREE OBSERVATIONS REQUIRED MAXIMUM OF FOUR ALLOWED Two observations must be done at a medical care factory All observations must be conducted on 3 (or 4) differ Please use the comment section for all exceptions Observation #1 – Type of facility used for observation	•		∏ot⊦		
Was the small dog's behavior acceptable when held by handler?				т	To.
The handler has the ability to safely handle this dog.		<u> </u>	NA	Yes	□ No
Did the handler follow your instructions?				☐ Yes☐ Yes	□ No
Did the handler follow the ATD Rules and Regulations during this observation	?			Yes	□ No
Did the prospective handler arrive with the proper approved equipment for t				Yes	□ No
The team demonstrated the appropriate skills to safely interact with people in animal assisted functions.				Yes	□ No
Needs Improvement (If yes, list improvement needed in comments below).	·			☐Yes	□No
Fourth observation required (If yes, indicate why in comments below).				Yes	□No
Observation:				PASS	FAIL
OBSERVER SIGNATURE				Date	
OBSERVER NAME (print)					
Observation #2 – Type of facility used for observation	☐ Medi	ical	Oth	ner	
Was the small dog's behavior acceptable when held by handler?			NA	Yes	□ No
The handler has the ability to safely handle this dog.				Yes	□ No
Did the handler follow your instructions?				Yes	□ No
Did the handler follow the ATD Rules and Regulations during this observation				Yes	□ No
Did the prospective handler arrive with the proper approved equipment for t	ne test?			Yes	No
The team demonstrated the appropriate skills to safely interact with people in animal assisted functions.				Yes	No
Needs Improvement (If yes, list improvement needed in comments below).				Yes	□ No
Fourth observation required (If yes, indicate why in comments below). Observation:				Yes	□ No
				PASS	FAIL
OBSERVER SIGNATURE				Date	
OBSERVER NAME (print) Comments:					

Observation #3 – Type of facility used for observation	Medical	Oth	er	
Was the small dog's behavior acceptable when held by handler?		NA	Yes	□No
The handler has the ability to safely handle this dog.			Yes	□No
Did the handler follow your instructions?			Yes	□No
Did the handler follow the ATD Rules and Regulations during this observation?	?		Yes	□No
Did the prospective handler arrive with the proper approved equipment for the	ne test?		Yes	□No
The team demonstrated the appropriate skills to safely interact with people in animal assisted functions.			Yes	□No
Needs Improvement and a fourth observation (list improvements needed in co	omments)		Yes	□No
Observation:			PASS	FAIL
OBSERVER SIGNATURE			Date	.L. -
OBSERVER NAME (print)				
Comments:				
Other strains and the strains				
Observation #4 - (if needed)	☐ Medical	Oth	er	
Type of facility used for observation	☐ Medical	Oth	er	
· · ·		Oth	er Yes	□No
Type of facility used for observation			T	□ No
Type of facility used for observation Was the small dog's behavior acceptable when held by handler?			Yes	
Type of facility used for observation Was the small dog's behavior acceptable when held by handler? The handler has the ability to safely handle this dog.			☐ Yes	□No
Type of facility used for observation Was the small dog's behavior acceptable when held by handler? The handler has the ability to safely handle this dog. Did the handler follow your instructions?	?		Yes Yes	□ No
Type of facility used for observation Was the small dog's behavior acceptable when held by handler? The handler has the ability to safely handle this dog. Did the handler follow your instructions? Did the handler follow the ATD Rules and Regulations during this observation? Did the prospective handler arrive with the proper approved equipment for the team demonstrated the appropriate skills to safely interact with people	?		☐ Yes ☐ Yes ☐ Yes ☐ Yes ☐ Yes	□ No □ No □ No
Type of facility used for observation Was the small dog's behavior acceptable when held by handler? The handler has the ability to safely handle this dog. Did the handler follow your instructions? Did the handler follow the ATD Rules and Regulations during this observation? Did the prospective handler arrive with the proper approved equipment for the team demonstrated the appropriate skills to safely interact with people in animal assisted functions.	?		☐ Yes	No No No No No No
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Type of facility used for observation Was the small dog's behavior acceptable when held by handler? The handler has the ability to safely handle this dog. Did the handler follow your instructions? Did the handler follow the ATD Rules and Regulations during this observation? Did the prospective handler arrive with the proper approved equipment for the team demonstrated the appropriate skills to safely interact with people in animal assisted functions. Observation: OBSERVER SIGNATURE OBSERVER NAME (print)	?		☐ Yes ☐ PASS	No No No No No