



*To become a minddog,*

your dog must already have some basic obedience training. He must sit, down, stay, come, wait, etcetera.

A dog that demonstrates boisterous behavior, nuisance barking, hackles-up, growling, showing teeth, lunging, biting, aggression, excessive fear, or inappropriate elimination is not ready for public access work. Please think about this before you apply.

*All dogs must have current registration* with your local council and must be microchipped.

All pups must be at least six months old and desexed. All dogs must be vaccinated and in good health. We only certify one dog per person.

*To make an application*

The costs are \$500 for employed, \$250 for pensioners, free for the homeless. This is not refundable. Once we have received your payment and application, we send you *The mindDog Book*.

This contains a six week home observation diary for you and your dog. You fill this out yourself and there are no right or wrong answers — it's just information for us.

*First Visit*

After you send the 6 week observation diary back you will get a first visit from your local mindDog Assessor. Your Assessor will be coming to meet you and your dog to check that everything is okay.

If this visit goes well, your dog will then get Trainee status. She gets a trainee minddog vest and ID.

This permits you to take her to any public space for the purposes of training. If you don't already have a dog, we can advise you on selection.

*Training your dog.*

You need to train your dog yourself under the supervision of a mindDog trainer. It is very important that you only use positive force free training methods. This is the training that uses



lots of treats.

The bond formed by training your own dog is vital to her effectiveness as a mindDog.

*We do not endorse sending your dog away to be trained by someone else.*

Once you have met your trainer, we do not get involved in the relationship between you. Fees and sessions are worked out between the two of you.

### *Second visit*

At about six months you will get a second visit from your assessor. This is just to check that you and your dog are doing well and to help with any problems you may have.



*Volunteers from mindDog are always available during business hours, or by email at [info@minddog.org.au](mailto:info@minddog.org.au), to answer your questions.*

*You will also be invited to participate in a private mindDog training support forum on Face Book.*

### *Trainee status lasts for 12 months.*

If your dog is ready at 12 months we will come to you and administer the Public Access Test. This costs \$300 for employed, \$225 for pensioners/ concession, free for the homeless. We will ask you to pay in advance.

When she has passed the test she is now a certified minddog with all the rights that involves ie she can go anywhere with you .

### *Certification lasts for 12 months.*

Then we come and visit you and check everything is going ok. We will retest your dog.

Re- certifications costs: \$250 for employed, \$200 for pensioners/ concession, free for homeless We will ask you to pay this in advance.



*helping dogs helping people*