



## **Puppy Raiser Program Guidelines**

Puppy Raisers are volunteers in Denver & the surrounding Metro Area who give their home and time to raise a puppy in preparation for its career as a service dog. The puppy raising home is a volunteer (single or family) that commits to taking care of the puppy. Puppy raisers come from all walks of life, providing the food, supplies, training, socialization, and love the puppy will need from 8 weeks to 24 months of age. It is not necessary for the puppy raiser to be experienced. We just like for the puppy raiser to be full of love, dedication, and commitment.

As a puppy raiser, it is also your responsibility to socialize the puppy as much as possible by visiting local businesses, churches, restaurants, etc. By doing this, you are preparing the puppy for many different sights, sounds, and situations so that when the puppy is placed as a trained dog, it is familiar with these environments and it can focus its attention on the person it will be assisting.

The following are some of the guidelines that are to be followed as a puppy raiser:

- Colorado Service Dogs trainers interview potential raisers in their homes.
- Raisers must be screened by Colorado Service Dogs, Inc. Director of Training, Sharon Davis, as an appropriate family.
- Raisers must be adults Be 18 years of age, children of 13 years of age and older will need approval.
- Raisers must accept and agree to the guidelines of the foster home program and sign agreements and protocols concerning the foster care arrangements.
- Raisers must attend all required classes and keep records of what training was done and what training accomplishments have been met.
- The puppies are placed on a specific diet as determined by Colorado Service Dogs, Inc.
- Other animals in the puppy raising home are perfectly acceptable, as long as they are accepting of a new puppy coming into the home.
- The individual/family is responsible for food, veterinary costs and supplies for the puppy during the puppy's duration in your home. This is considered a donation and is tax deductible.
- All puppies must be raised in an indoor environment. Young puppies need to be supervised throughout the day. All puppies must be on leash when not in a secure area.
- Raisers must provide daily exercise and socialization for the puppies.

- All members of the household must be committed to raising a puppy.
- Raisers are required to release the puppy back to Colorado Service Dogs at the organization's request.

Puppy Raiser/Foster families **will not be approved** if any of the following factors are noted:

- ▶ History of Physical abuse.
- ▶ Currently abusing or addicted to alcohol or drugs.
- ▶ History of arrest or convictions, misdemeanor or felony especially charges of domestic violence or any crime against family, person or animal.
- ▶ Do not have adequate space to keep a foster-dog/puppy including an unfenced yard or dog run. Each foster family home will have a physical evaluation done by a CSD representative prior to taking possession of foster-dog/puppy.
- ▶ Unable to attend required training sessions with CSD.
- ▶ Unable to provide the necessary time and commitment.
- ▶ Have a large quantity of pets in the home or ones with aggression issues or history.

## **Are You Ready To Become A Puppy-Raiser?**

Before you consider if puppy-raising is right for you, below are some very important questions to consider. If you can answer "yes" then you may become a valued puppy-raiser for Colorado Service Dogs!

1. Are you willing to make a 8 -24 month commitment to the puppy?
2. Will you invest the time (daily and beyond) needed to successfully raise a puppy?
3. Are you home during the day? Does your job require you to travel a lot? If you are not home during the day, will you take the puppy to work, school etc. under our guidance?
4. Do you recognize dogs are social animal that need interaction with people and other animals?
5. Will you walk your foster-dog/puppy at least twice daily for at least 20 minutes or more? Are you physically able to walk your foster-dog/puppy?
6. Will you schedule weekend time engaging your foster-dog/puppy in fun activities?
7. Are you patient and consistent with animals?
8. Are you willing to follow the instructions of the Colorado Service Dogs trainers and program?
9. Are you committed to making the puppy a member of your family?
10. Do you have a backup plan if you are unable to care for your four-legged friend for any reason?

# APPLICATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## In Case of Emergency, Please Notify:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

1. How did you hear about Colorado Service Dogs Puppy Raiser Program?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Have you ever raised a puppy or had an adult dog before? If yes please describe your experience:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Have you ever been involved in dog training? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Is there a weight limit for dogs where you live? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ If yes, what is the max? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Do you have an enclosed yard? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

If no, are you willing to build a kennel run for your dog? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

If no, how do you plan to toilet and exercise the dog?

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Are there children living in your home? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, how many? \_\_\_\_\_ What are their ages? \_\_\_\_\_

7. Are there animals living in your home? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, how many and please describe (type, gender etc.):

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8. Are they house (indoor) pets or outdoor pets? Indoor \_\_\_\_\_ Outdoor \_\_\_\_\_

9. Are the animals currently vaccinated? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

10. Are you willing to regularly attend scheduled puppy raiser outings? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

11. Are you willing to attend at least one group of community based obedience classes with your puppy per week?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

12. If you work outside the home, are you able to occasionally take your puppy to work with you?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

13. If you attend school, are you able to occasionally take your puppy to school with you?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

14. If you receive a puppy that is under four months of age, will you be able to feed him a mid-day meal?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

15. Are you willing to socialize your dog in public? This includes trips to grocery stores, malls, restaurants, movie theaters, other businesses, etc. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

16. Are you willing to have your puppy spayed or neutered? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

17. Are you willing to work at keeping your dog flea-free if you have a problem with fleas in your area?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide the name and address of your veterinarian (if you already have one):

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Clinic Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR PUPPY MUST BE ALLOWED TO LIVE IN THE HOUSE WITH YOU  
AND MUST SLEEP WITH YOU IN YOUR ROOM AT NIGHT.  
THE PUPPY MUST SLEEP IN A CRATE UNTIL HE/SHE IS HOUSEBROKEN.

**Release of Information**

Release of information requested from: \_\_\_\_\_ I authorize Colorado Service Dogs, Inc. to obtain information regarding criminal background history for the purpose of determining eligibility for fostering/raising a Colorado Service Dogs, Inc. owned puppies to train as potential service dogs. The release will be in affect for a minimum of 30 days and not more than 1 year.

**AGREEMENT**

I understand and agree that Colorado Service Dogs, Inc. and all of its representatives and volunteers, will not be liable for any problems which develop, provided reasonable care and precautions are followed, thereby releasing them of any liability of any kind while in my possession. I further understand and agree that any problems that may develop with my foster-dog/puppy will be treated as deemed best by the staff and volunteers of Colorado Service Dogs, Inc.

I certify that I have read and understand the policies of Colorado Service Dogs, Inc. as set forth that I have read and understand the conditions and statements of this agreement.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE RETURN TO:  
Colorado Service Dogs, Inc.

Mail:  
3034 Quarterland Street  
Strasburg, Colorado 80136

Fax (please call first):  
303-622-9382

Email:  
info@coservicedogs.com

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**OFFICE USE ONLY**

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Denied: \_\_\_\_\_  
(see comments below)

Dog's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_

Breed: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_