



Physician Statement

I, _____, give my permission for the below
(Patient's Name)

named physician to release the information requested in this form.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____ Date: _____

Dear Physician,
The patient listed above has an interest in applying for a service dog. The Americans with Disabilities Act allows service dogs to accompany people with qualified disabilities into privately owned businesses that serve the public. In order to verify your patient has a qualifying medical condition, we would appreciate you completing the following questions. The ADA definition of disability is on the reverse side of this form.

Is the person listed above currently a patient of yours? ___Yes ___No

Date of last Tetanus shot: _____

What is the nature of the medical condition that this person would need a service dog?

Is this patient taking medication related to this condition? ___Yes ___No

Is this person involved in physical therapy related to this condition? ___Yes ___No

Is this person involved in occupational therapy related to this condition? ___Yes ___No

Is this person being seen by a mental health professional? ___Yes ___No

Is there any additional information you would like to provide that will assist us to better meet the needs of this person? ___Yes ___No

If yes, please explain: _____

Physician Signature: _____

Physician Name: _____

Date: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Applicant information is privileged and confidential. This information is available to those involved in the applicant's consultation, training, recordkeeping and billing. However, such information may only be accessed on a need to know basis. Need to know is defined as the minimum use, disclosure or access necessary for one to adequately perform one's specific responsibilities. All other access is prohibited unless authorization is obtained from the applicant or unless otherwise permitted by state or federal law.

Service Dog vs Emotional Support Animal

A service dog has public access rights with proper training. The dog must be: 1) tested and observed for appropriate temperament for working in public; 2) trained to **do work** or **perform tasks** that mitigate the disability; 3) trained in basic obedience and appropriate public access behaviors.

The provision of emotional support, well being, comfort or companionship **DO NOT** constitute work or tasks. An Emotional Support Animal has Housing Rights but **NO PUBLIC ACCESS RIGHTS**. Emotional Support Animals must be well behaved, but the Fair Housing Act does not have any specific training requirements. A physician's note is **NOT** sufficient to grant a dog public access rights as a service dog. The ADA and the Department of Justice require that service dogs be trained to do work or perform tasks. Please discourage your patients from taking untrained/untested dogs out in public. Everybody believes "my dog would never bite." but the CDC reports more than 4.7 million dog bites a year with 800,000 people needing medical attention.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT of 1990, AS AMENDED 2008, effective January 2009

Sec.12102 Definition of disability--as used in this chapter: (1) Disability--The term "disability" mean, with respect to an individual (A) a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities of such individual; (B) a record of such an impairment; or (C) being regarded as having such an impairment (as described in paragraph 3). (2) Major Life Activities (A) In general-- For purpose of paragraph(1), major life activities include , but limited to , caring for oneself, performing manual tasks, seeing, hearing, eating, sleeping, walking, standing, lifting, bending, speaking, breathing, learning, reading, concentrating, thinking, communicating and working. (B) Major bodily functions--For purposes of paragraph(1), a major life activity also includes the operation of a major bodily function, including but not limited to , functions of the immune system, normal cell growth, digestive, bowel, bladder, neurological, brain, respiratory, circulatory, endocrine and reproductive functions. (3) Regarded as having such an impairment--For purposes of paragraph (1)(C): (A) An individual meets the requirement of "being regarded as having such an impairment" if the individual establishes that she or he had been subjected to action prohibited under this chapter because of an actual or perceived physical or mental impairment whether or not the impairment limits or is perceived to limit a major life activity. (B) Paragraph (1)(C) shall not apply to impairments that are transitory and minor. A transitory impairment is an impairment with an actual or expected duration of 6 months or less.

Department of Justice's Regulation regarding Service Animals

For Title II and Title III (State and Local Government Services and Public Accommodations and Commercial Facilities) Published September 12,2010, effective March 11,2011

Service Animal any dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual or mental disability. Other species of animals, whether wild or domestic, trained or untrained are not service animal for the purpose of this definition. The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the handler's disability. Examples of work or tasks include but not limited to, assisting individuals who are blind or have low vision with navigation and other tasks, alerting individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing to the presence of people or sounds, providing non-violent protection or rescue work, pulling a wheelchair, assisting an individual during a seizure, alerting individuals to the presence of allergens, retrieving item such as medication or the telephone, providing physical support and assistance with balance and stability to individuals with mobility disabilities and helping with psychiatric and neurological disabilities by preventing or interrupting impulsive or destructive behaviors. The crime deterrent effects of an animal's presence and the provision of emotional support, well being, comfort or companionship do not constitute work or tasks for the purpose of this definition.