

Tails of Valor, Paws of Honor Program, Inc. Service Dog Application

SECTION 1

Applicant's Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Applicant's Email: _____ **Phone:** _____

Thank you for requesting a service dog application from **Tails of Valor, Paws of Honor Program, Inc.** The addition of a service dog into a person's life is a big commitment. The benefits, both physical and emotional, are significant. We encourage interested parties to apply for a dog. This in no way commits the applicant to a decision, but instead indicates an interest and allows us to schedule an interview to discuss the specifics of the program and how a dog may fit into and benefit the individual's life.

Tails of Valor, Paws of Honor Program, Inc. is a Vocational Rehabilitation Program. This is a dog training program which provides a safe, effective, non-medicinal intervention that helps to treat the symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and traumatic brain injury (TBI). The program is a valuable opportunity for a Veteran suffering from psychological injuries or mobility assistance to reestablish them into civilian life. We are empowering our Veterans to return to civilian life with dignity, independence and the loyalty of their new companion.

Tails of Valor, Paws of Honor Program, Inc. offers three programs to best meet their needs :

- 1) Therapeutic Vocational Rehabilitation Training Program
- 2) Service Dog Task Training Program
- 3) Therapeutic Companion Dog Training

Veterans diagnosed with PTSD can come from all over the Tri-State area to train at our Vocational Rehabilitation Training Center located at Critter Corral Resorts in Quakertown, PA. Most of the dogs in our program have been rescued and named after a Veteran that lost their life in or after the war.

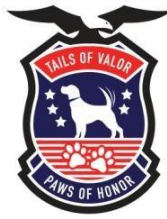
Tails of Valor, Paws of Honor Program, Inc. provides professional trainers that spend months training the dogs with special commands and tasks as required by the ADA (American's with Disabilities Act) before the Veterans are paired with their canine. Veterans must pass a MHP evaluation and canine care requirements, as well as, commit to a two week transfer class. During the transfer, skills learned by the dog will be taught to the Veteran. Continuation of communication is required annually after graduation of the team. The team must also commit to an attendance of one out of our four, quarterly reviews/events. These programs and/or canines are of NO COST to the Veteran.

Tails of Valor, Paws of Honor Program, Inc. respects the privacy of its applicants and recipients and all information is kept confidential although files may be periodically reviewed by accreditation agencies to ensure our commitment to the highest standards of excellence in the assistance dog industry.

Tails of Valor, Paws of Honor Program, Inc. conducts its business and acceptance process in a manner that will not discriminate against anyone on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, the presence of mental or physical disability, sexual preference, life expectancy, or whether the individual is a disabled veteran or veteran of any era. It is **Tails of Valor, Paws of Honor Program, Inc.** policy to treat everyone who comes in contact with the organization with respect and dignity at all times.

At no time will **Tails of Valor, Paws of Honor Program, Inc.** require applicants, students, or graduates to participate in fundraising or marketing activities.

I have read, understand, and agree to SECTION 1 of this application (please initial): _____



Tails of Valor, Paws of Honor Program, Inc. Service Dog Application

SECTION 2

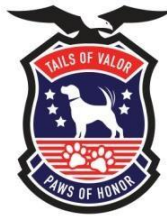
Applicant's Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Service Dog Applicants Must:

- Must be an active, retired or inactive military personnel and has been diagnosed with combat – related Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) or Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) or a disability by a licensed health care professional.
- Must reside in one of the 48 contiguous United States
- Must have a written recommendation submitted by one of the following: A licensed mental health professional, a VA caseworker or a wounded warrior advocate. Must be able to provide a current mental health medical report.
- Must have no felony convictions.
- Must have three personal references.
- Have the support and a referral from your Health Care Provider for obtaining an assistance dog.
- Have a disability that impacts your quality of life, independence and ability to engage in activities of daily living. We train our dogs for individuals with mobility limitations, as well as to assist with behaviorally related anxiety disorders. Whereas other disorders (mood disorders, thought disorders), may be co-occurring with anxiety disorders, principally trained to assist in the recovery and rehabilitation of anxiety disorder spectrum.
- Be able to provide a biography of themselves and how an assistance dog would help increase your independence and improve social interactions and every day focus.
- Be willing and able to provide for the dog's physical, emotional and financial needs.
- If applying for a service dog for a physical disability, you must have completed your in-patient rehabilitation program and/or be at least one (1) year post-injury/on-set of disability.
- If applying for a service dog for a psychiatric disability, you must be successfully engaged in your individualized treatment program related to your specific diagnosis for a minimum of six months. You must have an MHP evaluation that provides positive relative for a dog.
- Must have a positive attitude and effectively implement emotional regulation tools/techniques as needed. Keep an open mind with a willingness to learn.
- Have a stable home environment and support of all other household and family members.
- Have a desire for more independence.
- Be financially stable.
- Be able to attend an intensive two (2) week Team Training Class at **Tails of Valor, Paws of Honor Program, Inc's** facility, as well as cover airfare, accommodations, and transportation. Assistance can be provided for those needing through relations with other Veterans organizations.
- Provide a DD214
- Commit to a lifetime team empowerment with retesting annually

What to expect when you apply for a service dog:

- To participate in an initial interview. Most initial interviews are held in person at Critter Corral Inc. If an applicant lives more than 250 miles from the facility we may accept an interview by video but with the understanding that a personal interview will be required before a placement is made.



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SECTION 2 CONTINUED

Applicant's Name: _____ Date: _____

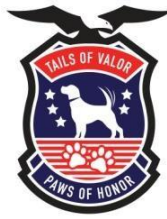
- A home inspection will be conducted while also meeting the family members in order to make sure that all will be comfortable with the transition of this new family member. We will ask of you to write a small essay to enable **Tails of Valor, Paws of Honor Program, Inc.** to understand your physical traits, lifestyle, disability, activities, personality, and why/how you feel a dog will make a difference. We want to get to know you and address your exact needs to the best of our ability.

Tails of Valor, Paws of Honor Program Inc. has invested private and public resources into training this canine. We must be 100% comfortable with the new partnership, as the dogs cannot speak for themselves. We are their guardian's and therefore must be thorough when making life-changing decisions.

What to expect when adopting our service dog:

- You will be required to attend private and group training sessions prior to acquiring your canine. You will work with our trainers and learn to navigate locations and situations similar to challenges you may experience at home. The transfer of the basic and intermediate commands will be instructed at this time and the bond of the new partnership will begin.
- At completion of the two week pairing the canine will be able to enter your home and another 3-month (adjusted) training program will be required. Upon completion of both sessions an adoption agreement will be executed, which will transfer ownership of the dog. Graduation will be completed after a successful partnership.
- You will then be an alumni of **Tails of Valor, Paws of Honor Program, Inc.** and we will request an annual commitment of communication and testing.
- At any time, if someone is suspected of being abusive to one of the dogs, the incident will be reviewed by the Puppy Raiser Committee. If physical harm is done to the dog, the dog will be immediately surrendered to **Tails of Valor, Paws of Honor Program, Inc.**

I have read, understand, and agree to SECTION 2 of this application (please initial): _____



Tails of Valor, Paws of Honor Program, Inc. Service Dog Application

SECTION 3

Applicant's Name: _____ Date: _____

Veteran Service Dog Application

Please complete the following application in its entirety and as legibly as possible. If necessary, you may have someone complete the form for you, but we require that your personal signature be on several of the forms.

Information collected is strictly confidential and is used *only* for the purposes of identifying the most qualified dog for your particular needs.

It is imperative that the application be completed thoroughly.

Contact Information

First/ Last Name: _____ DOB: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____

ZIP: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Work Phone _____

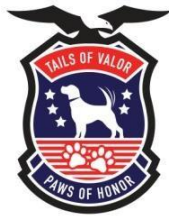
Email: _____

Emergency Contact

First/Last Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Phone: _____ Alt Phone: _____



Tails of Valor, Paws of Honor Program, Inc.
Service Dog Application

SECTION 3 CONTINUED

Applicant's Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Children:

___ I have no children.

___ I have children and will provide the names and ages below:

Is there anyone residing in your home that is not listed above? Yes ___ No ___

If so, please list: _____

Education:

___ High School

___ College

___ Associates Degree

___ Bachelors Degree

___ Masters Degree

___ Doctorate

___ Other

Employment Information:

Are you currently employed? Yes ___ No ___

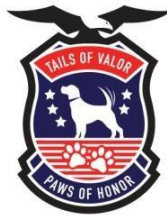
Employer Information:

Name : _____

Address : _____

City : _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone : _____



Tails of Valor, Paws of Honor Program, Inc.
Service Dog Application

SECTION 3 CONTINUED

Applicant's Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Military Service Information :

What is your current military standing? _____

Length of Service (to date): Years : _____ Months : _____

For which Branch did you serve? _____

Has a mental health professional diagnosed you with combat related PTSD? Yes ____ No ____

Did you sustain any injuries while serving in the military? Yes ____ No ____

If "Yes", please describe: _____

During which conflict did you serve? Please circle answer.

WWII Korea Vietnam Persian Gulf War Afghanistan Iraq

Do you currently utilize a wheelchair? Yes ____ No ____

Please indicate which proof of service you intend to provide:

DD-214 (retired/separated military)

Memo from Commanding Officer (active military) or Mental Health Professional

How were you referred to **Tails of Valor, Paws of Honor Program, Inc..?**

Please attach 3 personal references.

I have read, understand, and agree to **SECTION 3** of this application (please initial): _____

Applicant's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Date Received & Board Member : _____