



Dogs Assisting Diabetics Foundation

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The following questions are designed to help you assess your interest and readiness for D.A.D.'s program.

- Have you been diagnosed with type 1 diabetes or insulin dependent type 2 diabetes?
- Have you had diabetes for more than one year?
- Are you confident in your blood sugar management skills?
- Are you able to comfortably walk a distance of roughly one mile, on a daily basis? If not, are you willing to develop the stamina and ability to walk this distance?
- Do you feel that you can trust a dog to alert you, even at times you think your blood sugar levels should be normal?
- Living and working with a Service Dog involves interdependence between human and dog. Do you accept the responsibility to be a consistent and fair leader in such a partnership?
- A Service Dog will need quality food, several opportunities each day to relieve, grooming, veterinarian visits, playtime and affection from its partner. Can you provide for the physical and emotional needs of this working companion?
- A Service Dog will require continued education. It is required a minimum of 15 minutes each day and 8 hours of professional lessons per year are required. Are you prepared to keep up on training with your Service Dog?
- Do you understand that there will be a transitional period when your dog first arrives at home. Your dog will need to settle with you and your handling before he/she becomes confident in alerting.
- Are those who live with you comfortable with having a dog in the home and are they willing to comply with some basic guidelines D.A.D. provides regarding the care, control and behavior of your dog? What about your friends and co-workers?
- Would you enjoy having more contact with the public? Partnering with a Service Dog frequently attracts the admiration and interest of people around you.
- Do you like the idea of having a dog around when your Service Dog is off duty? This animal is usually with you twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. A significant portion of having a Service Dog is simply enjoying him or her as a pet and housemate.
- Are you prepared for the fee of \$15,000? D.A.D. does occasionally offer scholarships, but those are based on individual need and availability of funds.