

Certifying Your Own Dog Program (Dog's must already be fully trained)

1. Applicant completes the First Temperament Assessment Form directly on our website and makes the payment.
2. Advisory@thelifelinecanada.ca receives the First Temperament Assessment.
3. Liane Weber or admin enters in new Contact into NEON.
4. Liane weber or Admin emails Trainer Coordinator to schedule temperament assessment.
5. Training Coordinator emails the applicant an introduction to their local assessor to schedule a date and time for the first temperament assessment OR the applicant is emailed an introduction to their local assessor with an already scheduled time and day for their First Temperament Assessment.
6. Training Coordinator enters data into NEON (adding date of scheduled first temperament assessment and Adjudicator).
7. Adjudicator emails Training Coordinator about assessment results.
8. Training Coordinator enters in to NEON.
9. When the applicant and dog pass the first temperament assessment, the Training Coordinator emails the applicant with Congratulations and the link to register for the next step of the process.
10. Advisory@thelifelinecanada.ca receives confirmation of registration and payment.
11. Liane Weber sends access to TLC's Companion Paws Online Skills Training Course through the Learning Management System.
12. Advisory@thelifelinecanada.ca receives an email upon applicant successfully completing the skills training online course with a 100% passing mark on the quiz.
13. Liane Weber or Admin enters data into NEON.
14. Liane Weber or Admin emails Training Coordinator to schedule the applicant's second temperament assessment.
15. Upon successful completion of the Second Temperament Assessment, the Training Coordinator will schedule the applicant for their Final Evaluation date.
16. Adjudicator sends email to Trainer Coordinator to confirm passing of final evaluation.
17. Trainer Coordinator emails client with Congratulations and Registration Documents to be completed and sent back to Advisory@thelifelinecanada.ca
18. Once all completed documents have been received, the client will be mailed a Companion Paws Therapy Dog Vest, Identification card and Certificate of Registration.
19. Liane Weber uploads all certification documentation to their account in NEON
20. Trainer Coordinator sends a membership email to new certified member (client) connecting the client to the Certified Member Manager, including membership details, login and password to access their program account details.
21. An online follow up form for clients to complete, is sent to certified personal designations every 6 months and adoption clients every 6 months after adoption. Certified or not.
22. Annually registrant's must renew at \$95 and schedule an annual re-evaluation. The cost of the re-evaluation is covered in the renewal fee.

Health records and vaccinations must be up to date prior to the First Temperament Assessment.

Costs;

Step 1 – \$55.00

1. First Temperament Assessment (First Temperament Assessments will be scheduled starting in October 2018!)

Upon successfully completing a Temperament Assessment with a Companion Paws Assessor, you may register for the remainder of the program process.

Step 2, 3 and 4 – \$250.00

2. Therapy Dog Skills Training Online Course

3. Second Temperament Assessment

4. Final Evaluation

Upon successfully completing TLC's Companion Paws Final Evaluation, you will be emailed documents to be completed and submitted back to us with any required supporting documentation. All certified members receive a Companion Paws vest, identification card and certificate of registration. We have letters of certification, landlord letters and airline letters available by request.

Annual Re-Assessment and Registration Renewal \$95

- Includes the required Annual Re-Assessment

Guidelines;

- Calm and gentle temperament
- Very well trained. Obedience, manners and socialization training.
- Very friendly.
- Great with people of all ages and not aggressive to people or other dogs.
- Dogs are expected to be clean and healthy with up to date vaccinations.
- Minimum age of dog is **1.5 years old**. There is no age limit on dogs for the workshop.

Everyone with TLC's Companion Paws is a dog lover. As such, we only qualify dogs who enjoy interacting with strangers to protect dogs who don't from being over-stressed or forced into such activities.

To qualify as a therapy dog, the dog must have up to date medical health records letter from his or her veterinarian, current dog license and must have no aggression towards people or other dogs (including un-neutered male dogs).

For personal therapy dog certification, you must have a letter from your current mental health professional on letter head, with date, signature, your name and why a therapy dog would benefit you.

1. First Temperament Assessment

The first part of the Companion Paws Therapy Dog certification process is a First Temperament Assessment to confirm **suitability as a therapy dog** for your requested designation of Personal, Assisted or Visiting therapy. The assessment will take approximately 30 minutes. You may request more than one Therapy Dog designation. You must

pass the first temperament assessment to register for the last 3 steps of TLC's Companion Paws program. To request the First Temperament Assessment for confirmation of suitability for the program, please click the following link [Temperament Assessment Request](#) and complete the request form.

The purpose of the 30-minute temperament assessment is to establish both that the dog is not a safety risk and both dog and handler are suitable for – their respective designations.

The Assessment is to confirm:

- Level of Aggression
- Protectiveness
- Stability
- Confidence
- Friendliness

Summary of First Temperament Assessment:

1. Approach
2. Possession
3. Touch and Handling
4. Food
5. Responsiveness to Redirection
6. Pressure Stimuli
7. Dog to Dog Introduction
8. Dog to Dog Food Issues
9. Overall Behavior

If your city or province is not listed in available locations for final evaluations, and you would be willing to travel to your closest location for the final evaluation, please contact us at admin@thelifelinecanada.ca to request an assessment and we will work to find an assessor local to you to perform the temperament assessment.

2. Companion Paws Therapy Dog Skills Training Online Course

The second step of the program is the Skills Training Online Course.

1. Reading Resources include information about the Program, the Process, By laws, Code of Conduct, Rules and Regulations.
2. Skill training Videos
3. Online course final Quiz

Summary of the online course skills training videos;

1. Teaching a Cue
2. Watch and Focus "Watch Command"
3. The "Down" Cue
4. The "Stay" Cue
5. The "Come" Cue
6. Loose Leash Basics
7. Loose Leash Walking
8. Sitting When Stopped

9. Introducing a Wheelchair “Stationary”
10. Introducing a Wheelchair “Adding Motion”
11. Introducing Crutches: “Stationary”
12. Introducing Crutches: “Adding Movement”
13. Distractions: Keeping Your Dog Engaged
14. Conditioning to Loud Noises
15. Conditioning to Clumsy People
16. Conditioning to Inappropriate Petting
17. Conditioning to Multiple People Petting
18. Accepting a Friendly Stranger
19. Leave It: “Food Distractions”
20. It’s Your Choice: A Self-Control Game for Your Dog
21. No Jump Manners
22. Greeting Another Dog
23. Supervised Separation

3. Second Temperament Assessment

The third part of the Companion Paws Therapy Dog certification process is a Temperament Assessment to again confirm suitability as a therapy dog for your requested designation(s) of Personal, Assisted or Visiting therapy. You may request more than one Therapy Dog designation.

Summary of Second Temperament Assessment:

1. Approach
 2. Possession
 3. Touch and Handling
 4. Food
 5. Responsiveness to Redirection
 6. Pressure Stimuli
 7. Dog to Dog Introduction
 8. Dog to Dog Food Issues
 9. Overall Behavior

4. Final Evaluation

The CPC evaluation is divided into two stages and has 17 individual tests and additional exercises within each test. The Temperament Assessment is not included in this number.

What to bring to the Final Evaluation;

- Bring a proper lead and collar so your dog is always manageable in the group.
- Bring your own grooming tool to the final evaluation

Summary of Final Evaluation;

- Coming When Called
- Sit and Down on Command (Staying in one place)
- Reactions to Distractions x 2
- Accepting a Friendly Stranger
- Sitting Politely for Petting
- Out for a Walk (Walking on a close leash)

- Walking Through a Crowd
- Reaction to Another Dog
- Reaction to Medical Equipment x 2
- Leave It x 2
- No Mark Manners
- Supervised Separation (time – one minute)
- Say Hello
- Appearance and Grooming

Upon successfully completing TLC's Companion Paws Final Evaluation, you will be emailed documents to be completed and submitted back to us with any required supporting documentation. All certified members receive a Companion Paws vest, identification card and certificate of registration. We also have letters of certification, landlord letters and airline letters available by request.

5. Annual Re-Assessment and Renewal

You will be required to re-assess annually for the renewal of certification. The annual renewal fee is \$95 and includes the re-assessment.