



Name _____

Date _____

Animal's Name _____

Breed _____

Age _____

Self-Assessment for Volunteering as a Team with Mid South Therapy Dogs & Friends

Thanks for your interest in Mid South Therapy Dogs & Friends and in volunteering with your animal.

Take this self-assessment to determine if both you and your animal are ready to proceed. Please plan to bring your completed assessment with you if you decide to come to an interview.

1. **What kind of animal do you want to volunteer with?** Dog Cat Horse Donkey

About You

2. **Do you have the time to work with your animal on a regular, ongoing basis to teach and maintain the behaviors necessary for making safe and effective visits (an hour a week could be a reasonable amount of time)?**

Yes Not sure No

3. **Do you have the time to commit to keeping your animal thoroughly bathed and groomed for your visits? Or the money to have a professional groomer, do it?** Yes Not sure No

Unlike many kinds of volunteering, there are fees associated with becoming a registered therapy animal team because of the extensive training and education required.

You will also need to re-test with your animal partner every two years, including an updated veterinary health screening and evaluation.

Place an **X along the line** to indicate how you would rate yourself in the following areas, along a continuum from 1 to 10.

4. With my animal . . .

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

I use a firm, no-nonsense tone of voice and leash corrections to make sure s/he know I am boss

I use a conversational tone of voice and hand signals to work with my animal as a partner

5. With my animal . . .

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

I am often confused about what my animal's behavior means

I clearly understand what my animal communicates through his/her subtle behaviors

About Your Animal

Place an **X along the line** to indicate how you would rate your animal in the following areas, along a continuum from 1 to 10.

6. My animal. . .

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Is never interested in meeting or being with strangers						Always, consistently and actively seeks out the company of people outside my home			

7. My animal. . .

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Is extremely high energy and hyperactive						Is extraordinarily calm, mellow and relaxed			

8. My animal. . .

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Is afraid of anything and everything outside of his/her normal, familiar environment						Quickly adjusts to all new environments, sounds, strangers, etc. with no problem			

9. How often does your animal have significant interaction with people outside of your home?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Never						Several hours each day			

How often does your animal do the following:

10. Paw People	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	All the Time						Never			

11. Jump on people	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	All the Time						Never			

12. Lick people	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	All the Time						Never			

13. Vocalize (whine, bark, "talk" etc.)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	All the Time						Never			

14. How does your animal behave at the veterinarian or groomer?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Nervous, shaking, pacing panting, etc.						Calm, cool and collected			

15. How does your animal react when seeing another dog?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Growls, snarls, lunges attention to me					Wants to play			Mildly curious, but still pays	

16. Does your dog have reliable basic skills, including

	<i>Yes, Consistently</i>	<i>Sometimes</i>	<i>No</i>
Sit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Down	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Come when called	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leave it	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Walk on a loose leash	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not jumping on people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Potty Training	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

For information about your cat, horse or donkey, contact us

Thank you! Please bring your completed assessment with you if you decide to come for an interview.