



Loyal Guardians Service Dog Training

Puppy Raiser FAQ

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Puppy Raiser for Loyal Guardians Service Dog Training. Puppy Raisers play a vital role in the development of future service dogs by helping build the foundation skills, confidence, and socialization needed for successful service work.

Below are some common questions about the Puppy Raiser program.

What is a Puppy Raiser?

A Puppy Raiser is a volunteer who provides a safe, structured home for a service dog in training during the early stages of development. Puppy Raisers help introduce the dog to everyday environments, build confidence, and reinforce foundational training skills.

Puppy Raisers work closely with the Loyal Guardians training team and follow structured training guidelines to help prepare the dog for advanced service work.

How long will the puppy stay with me?

Most puppies stay with a Puppy Raiser for 12–18 months before returning to the program for advanced service dog training.

The exact length of time may vary depending on the dog and training progress.

What are the responsibilities of a Puppy Raiser?

Puppy Raisers help with:

- Daily care and supervision
- Basic obedience reinforcement
- Socialization to new environments
- Exposure to everyday sights and sounds
- Crate training and house manners
- Attending scheduled training sessions
- Providing regular updates to the training team

Your role is to build the dog's confidence, manners, and stability, not to teach advanced service tasks.

Will I receive training and support?

Yes. Puppy Raisers will receive:

- Training guidelines and expectations
- Ongoing support from the Loyal Guardians training team
- Scheduled training sessions
- Guidance on socialization and environmental exposure

You will never be expected to train the puppy without support.

What costs are Puppy Raisers responsible for?

Program details may vary, but generally Puppy Raisers may be responsible for:

- Daily care (food, basic supplies)
- Transportation to training sessions
- Maintaining routine care in the home

Loyal Guardians may assist with:

- Veterinary care (when applicable)
- Training equipment
- Training support and guidance

Specific expectations will be discussed before placement.

Can I have other pets in the home?

Yes, many Puppy Raisers have other pets. However, existing pets must:

- Be friendly and stable
- Be up to date on vaccinations
- Not display aggressive behaviors

All household pets will be evaluated before a puppy is placed.

What if I go on vacation or cannot care for the puppy temporarily?

If you need temporary help caring for the puppy, please contact the Loyal Guardians team as soon as possible. We will work with you to arrange alternative care if needed.

What happens if the puppy does not become a service dog?

Not every dog completes service dog training. If a dog is determined to be unsuitable for service work, the program will evaluate the best next step for that dog.

Sometimes Puppy Raisers are given the opportunity to adopt the dog, but this cannot be guaranteed.

Will the puppy be allowed in public places?

Yes. Part of the puppy's development includes safe and appropriate exposure to public environments. Puppy Raisers will be guided on when and where public outings are appropriate based on the dog's age and development.

All Loyal Guardians guidelines must be followed when representing the program in public.

How do I apply to become a Puppy Raiser?

Interested individuals can apply through the Loyal Guardians application process. Applicants may be asked to:

- Complete an application
- Participate in an interview
- Provide information about their home environment

- Meet with the training team

This ensures the best possible match between the puppy and the raising home.

Why Puppy Raisers Are So Important

Puppy Raisers are the foundation of every successful service dog team. The time, care, and dedication you provide during a puppy's early development directly impacts their ability to become a confident and reliable service dog.

Your role helps change lives.