



VOLUNTEER ROADMAP

General Requirements before taking the next steps to becoming a Hand in Paw Therapy Team:

- Animal must be 18 months to be screened
- You must have lived with your animal for 6 months
- You and your dog must have completed a group obedience course
- Animals must have up-to-date rabies and vaccinations
- Animals must be spayed or neutered

1. Complete online Volunteer Application

- Submit Rabies Certificate, Group Obedience Course Certificate, and COVID card to:
Volunteer & Programs Manager Stephanie Stoltzner: stephanie@handinpaw.org

2. Schedule interview/pet screening with Hand in Paw

Please bring the following forms to the interview/evaluation:

- Towel or blanket for small dogs or cat (10-15 pounds is considered small).
- Collar and leash must be leather or fabric, no prong collars or retractable/metal leashes.

3. Complete Hand in Paw Therapy Team Workshop Sessions

- Workshop sessions are held once a week for 4 weeks.
- Each session is ~2 hours.

4. Complete Practice Evaluation

- This is your opportunity to practice for the Final Evaluation.

5. Complete Final Evaluation

- The evaluation gives you an opportunity to demonstrate your team skills. Our Evaluators will guide you through a series of exercises that show the connection you share with your dog and their willingness to follow your cues.

6. Complete Two Shadow Visits (without your pet)

- Observe Hand in Paw Therapy Teams in action.

7. Attend New Team Orientation

- You and your pet attend a 1-hour new team orientation at HIP to review important procedures to begin your Hand in Paw Therapy Team visits.

Hand in Paw is an affiliate of Intermountain Therapy Animals (ITA). ITA sets the standard for force-free training, positive reinforcement, and relationship-building in the training, handling, and care of animals.