



Proof of disability

Guide, Hearing and Assistance Dogs Act 2009 (the Act)

To be eligible for a certified guide, hearing or assistance dog, a person must:

- have a disability diagnosed by a registered health practitioner, and
- must reasonably require the dog to reduce their need for support.

Handlers provide evidence of disability to their approved trainer and a copy is also provided to the Guide, Hearing and Assistance Dogs (GHAD) team. Individuals and businesses should not ask a handler to produce evidence of disability.

Section 5 of the Act defines a disability as a condition that:

- is attributable to either:
 - an intellectual, psychiatric, cognitive, neurological, sensory or physical impairment (such as a vision or hearing impairment); or
 - the presence in the person's body of organisms causing illness or disease; and
- results in both:
 - a reduction of the person's capacity for communication, social interaction, learning, mobility, self-care or management; and
 - the person needing support.

A disability may be of a chronic episodic nature.

A person must provide proof of their disability to their trainer by supplying a certificate of disability, signed by a registered health practitioner.

For further information:

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