



Guide Dogs
of America



Tender Loving
Canines

Autism Service Dogs

A Partner for Support, Motivation, and Connection



Autism Service Dogs can provide meaningful support for every day activities. These specially trained dogs help children navigate social situations, manage anxiety, and build confidence.

How Autism Service Dogs Help

Service dogs are task-trained to support areas such as:

- Model appropriate behaviors to support daily living tasks
- Encourage positive social engagement with peers
- Provide grounding support to help reduce anxiety
- Help prevent elopement through the use of a secondary leash
- Interrupt early signs of maladaptive behavior

Eligibility Criteria

Your family may be eligible for a Service Dog if:

- Your child is between 6–9 years old with an autism diagnosis
- Your child seeks interaction with large breed dogs
- Your child is participating in a form of therapy
- A parent/guardian (applicant) can attend a 10-day training program
- Can provide a safe and stable home environment for a service dog

Why Guide Dogs of America | Tender Loving Canines

Excellence You Can Trust

At Guide Dogs of America | Tender Loving Canines, we uphold the highest standards of excellence at every stage of our program, from purpose breeding to professional training.

We are fully accredited by Assistance Dogs International and the International Guide Dog Federation, meeting and exceeding rigorous global standards for quality, ethics, and outcomes.



"I finally have hope for my son's future after witnessing so much change since he got his service dog."
-Ali, Autism Mom

Learn More:

guidedogsofamerica.org
818-833-6442

PLEASE NOTE: We have temporarily paused new application submissions so we can give thoughtful attention to the applications already received. If you are in immediate need of a service dog, we encourage you to visit Assistance Dogs International. We do not yet have an estimated re-open date for applications.

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