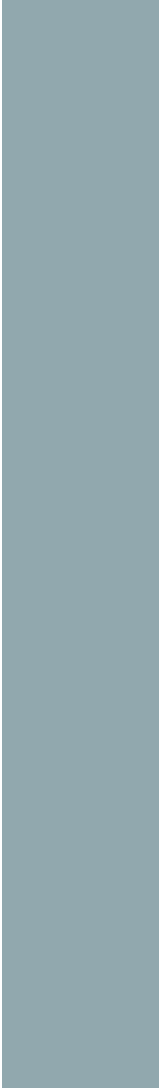


Informing Decisions

If you need a service dog, but do not know where to start the following suggested checklist may be useful when interviewing potential service providers (organizations/trainers). If a service provider refuses to answer your questions and will not back up in writing what is verbally articulated it would be wise to continue your search. Ultimately, the decision is yours to make. The enclosed talking points are merely suggestions.

*A suggested Checklist to Weigh My Options		
Are service dogs provided at no charge or do you charge your clients?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are you and/or your organization insured?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are you working with an interdisciplinary team to meet the needs of your clients?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Can I keep my service dog when it retires?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Do you have a background working with people with special needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Do you have an application process? If so, do you have a privacy and use of information policy?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Do you have any breed restrictions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Do you provide follow-up, aftercare, advocacy, and other resources for your graduates?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Does your organization screen staff and volunteers?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
How do you determine who is qualified for your program?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
How long has your organization existed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
How long have you been in business? Is your business registered?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
How many service dog teams do you graduate annually?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
How often do you re-assess your graduates?	<input type="checkbox"/>	



*A suggested Checklist to Weigh My Options

If I meet the application requirements and graduate, do you have or know of a peer's support group that I could get involved with?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
If you work independently, do you have a current police check or a vulnerable sector check?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is there a waiting list?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is your organization a registered charity or non-profit organization?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
What are the qualifications of your service dog trainers, what are your qualifications?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
What are your clients' responsibilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
What happens to the dogs that are not suited to be a service dog?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
What is the organization's responsibilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Who are you accountable to?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Who maintains ownership of the dog?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Will I have to raise funds and tell my story for my application to be accepted?	<input type="checkbox"/>	



The Canadian Foundation
for Animal Assisted Support Services

Our Vision

CFAS endeavours to inspire and sustain the innovation, coordination, and integration of exceptional Animal-Assisted Services within Canada's healthcare, social services, justice, corrections, and voluntary sectors in order to build a healthier, safer, and barrier-free Canada with people, pets, and partners (animals in service).

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