

Graduate Contractual Agreement

This is to certify that _____(hereinafter referred to as the graduate) has successfully completed the required training program of The OccuPaws Guide Dog Association (hereinafter referred to as OccuPaws) with Guide Dog _____, and it is agreed that the graduate and OccuPaws are mutually satisfied with the performance and safety of the person/dog team.

At the request of the graduate, contractual right of use to Guide Dog _____, ID _____, Sex/Breed _____, date of Birth _____, is hereby granted by OccuPaws to the above named graduate. It is further understood that OccuPaws retains ownership of said guide dog until ownership has been transferred to the graduate. The graduate may be eligible to have full ownership of the guide dog transferred to them after one year as a working team, at the option of OccuPaws. Terms and conditions of the transfer will be determined at the time of the transfer by mutual consent. The Graduate understands that the harness and ID card issued remain the property of OccuPaws and must be returned at the time of retirement and/or release of the dog from guide work.

OccuPaws has the right to recover the above named guide dog and retains the right to revoke contractual rights under these conditions:

1. The Graduate ignores required care or treats the dog in a cruel or inhumane manner including physical or mental abuse or neglect as reported to and/or confirmed by OccuPaws or an official agency, including but not limited to, police department, humane society or animal control.
2. Any criminal conviction/incarceration or substance abuse issues which in the sole opinion of OccuPaws may endanger said dog.
3. Graduate desires to no longer keep the guide dog for any reason, such as unsuitability or lacking the desire/ability to continue working.
4. The Graduate is unable to work the dog sufficiently to maintain skills.

5. The death/disability of the graduate. The placement wishes of the graduate owner will be considered if the dog is unable to be reissued as a working guide.
6. Health conditions – OccuPaws **must** be notified regarding health problems and the inability of said guide dog to perform guide work. The Graduate agrees to the below conditions:

Ensure that the dog is properly fed and exercised to maintain dog's weight between _____ and _____ lbs.

Obtain vet clinic verification of dog's weight 30-45 days following the signing of this document, then quarterly thereafter until the ownership agreement is signed, then annually thereafter providing the dog remains within the contracted weight range.

Maintain **heartworm medication** and **flea/tick prevention** year-round

Ensure the dog receives Rabies, Dhpp, Lymes and Leptospirosis vaccines as recommended by the veterinarian

Be solely responsible for all veterinary services and expenses

Send quarterly weight report and annual vet health check records to

Phone: (608) 772-3787
Fax: (866) 854-3291
Email: info@occupaws.org
Mail: The OccuPaws Guide Dog Association
P.O. Box 45857
Madison, WI 53744

Provide a safe living environment

Maintain healthy grooming by brushing, bathing, or clipping for poodles for a healthy coat, get nails Trimmed, brush teeth, and clean ears

Note: If health concerns are identified, including an overweight dog, a plan will be implemented in collaboration with the graduate, vet, and OccuPaws which may include more frequent submission of vet records until the dog returns to a healthy working condition

Ongoing support - An Occupaws trainer or area coordinator will contact and/or meet with the Graduate to provide follow-up training, assistance, answer questions, or provide guidance to insure a safe, working team.

Retirement - Health concerns or age are the usual reasons for the retirement of a guide dog. OccuPaws and graduate will jointly make the determination whether to retire the guide dog. At the time of retirement or release of said dog from its guide work career, OccuPaws, in consultation with the graduate owner, will determine the best placement for the dog. If graduate is under guardianship on the date of this agreement, the parents or legal guardians will assist OccuPaws in making determinations on behalf of the graduate for placement of said dog.

The Graduate understands that not adhering to these guidelines may nullify this agreement and thus require that the dog be returned to OccuPaws.

In consideration for receiving the guide dog, harness, and various initial care items free of charge, Graduate agrees that OccuPaws is hereby released of all present and future financial and liability obligations of dog and graduate.

Graduate grants to OccuPaws, the irrevocable right to use my name, pictures, images, or video in all forms and media and in all manners, including but not limited to brochures, website, promotional materials, print ads, publication and electronic media.

I understand the terms and agree to the aforementioned conditions and terms imposed under this agreement.

This agreement is entered into this ____ day of ____, in the year ____.



Barbara Schultze, President
OccuPaws Guide Dog Association

Graduate Signature

Current Contact Information for graduate Team:

Physical Address: _____

City/state/zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Current Veterinary Information for graduate Team:

Name _____

Physical Address _____

City, St Zip _____

Phone (____) _____

email _____