



# AKC Therapy Dog Title Application



**Mail to: AKC Performance Events Dept.  
Attn: Therapy Dog Program  
8051 Arco Corporate Drive, Suite 100  
Raleigh, NC, 27617**

**Phone: (919) 816-3900  
Fax: (919) 816-3905  
Email: akctherapydog@akc.org**

The purpose of the AKC Therapy Dog titling program is to acknowledge dogs that work to improve the lives of people through their interactions with therapy dogs. The program is open to all dogs (purebred or mixed breed) that are registered or listed with AKC.

To earn the AKC Therapy Dog title, you and your dog must meet the following criteria:

1. *Certified/registered by an AKC recognized therapy dog organization*
2. *Perform a minimum of 50 visits.*
3. *The dog must be registered or listed with AKC.*

If your dog meets this criteria and you would like to apply for an AKC Therapy Dog title, please complete this application and mail to the address above with a \$20 recording fee. AKC accepts the following forms of payment: Check or money order made out to “American Kennel Club” and Visa, MasterCard, Discover, or American Express. If your application is not approved due to not meeting the qualifications, you will be notified and your fee will be refunded.

## SECTION 1. Owner Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address/Street \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

## SECTION 2. Dog Information

1. AKC Number (list the number for the one category below that applies to your dog):

AKC registration number \_\_\_\_\_

AKC PAL number (Purebred Alternative Listing) \_\_\_\_\_

AKC Canine Partner number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Dog name \_\_\_\_\_

Show full registered/listed name

3. Breed

Mixed Breed  Purebred. If so, list breed: \_\_\_\_\_

4. AKC titles for this dog? List here: \_\_\_\_\_

Owner name \_\_\_\_\_ Dog Name \_\_\_\_\_

### **SECTION 3. Please attach to this application form:**

Make sure you have met the requirements below.

- \_\_\_ 1. Provide verification of being certified/registered by an AKC recognized therapy dog organization. This can be done with a copy of a wallet card or certificate from the certification organization. A list of certification organizations can be found at: [www.akc.org/akctherapydog](http://www.akc.org/akctherapydog)
  
- \_\_\_ 2. Provide verification of a minimum of 50 therapy dog visits. This can be done by using a:
  - 1) Therapy Dog Record of Visits Form (see [www.akc.org/akctherapydog](http://www.akc.org/akctherapydog)) or,
  - 2) Certificate or wallet card from certifying organization indicating the dog has made 50 visits or more (*For those certifying therapy dog organizations that do provide wallet cards or other verification of 50 visits, a copy of this will be acceptable to AKC*), or,
  - 3) Letter from the facility (nursing home, school, hospital, etc.) where the dog served as a therapy dog. Letters must be on facility letterhead. Contact information for verification purposes:

Facility Name \_\_\_\_\_

Facility Address (city, state, zip) \_\_\_\_\_

Contact's name at the facility \_\_\_\_\_

Contact's phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Contact's email \_\_\_\_\_

If you visited more than one facility for your 50 visits, attach the information for each facility.

AKC will acknowledge visits by therapy dogs back to January 1, 2000.

### **SECTION 4. Experience**

- 1. Briefly describe the therapy setting(s) (nursing home, school, hospital, etc.) in which you and your dog have volunteered.

Owner name \_\_\_\_\_ Dog Name \_\_\_\_\_

### SECTION 4. Experience, continued

2. When was your dog originally certified as a therapy dog? \_\_\_\_\_  
How long did you volunteer? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you still volunteering or retired?       Still volunteering       Retired

*(This does not affect your ability to earn the AKC Therapy Dog title. The AKC Therapy Dog title does not expire and is not removed when the dog is no longer working.)*

### SECTION 5. Purpose of a Therapy Dog

Therapy dogs are dogs that volunteer with their owners to improve the lives of others. Service dogs are dogs who are specially trained to help a person with disabilities. Therapy dogs are not service dogs and they do not have the same public access as service dogs.

If my dog receives the AKC Therapy Dog title, I will not use the title in any way to present my dog as a service dog. This means I will not use the therapy dog title for the purpose of gaining public access to planes, restaurants, public buildings, stores, etc.

Further, I understand that the AKC Therapy Dog title does not qualify a dog to make visits and I agree to maintain a current status with my therapy dog registration/certification organization as long as I am volunteering with my dog.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### SECTION 6. PAYMENT

#### Select Your Payment Method

I have enclosed a \$20 check or money order for the application fee made payable to AKC.

Charge \$20 to my (Circle one):

Visa       MasterCard       American Express       Discover

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Cardholder

\_\_\_\_\_  
Account Number (Do not include dashes)

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Owner name \_\_\_\_\_ Dog Name \_\_\_\_\_

## SECTION 7. CERTIFICATION

I certify that the information given in this application is true and accurate. I understand and agree that approval for the AKC Therapy Dog title is not guaranteed.

I agree that any cause of action, controversy, or claim arising out of or related to this application, or as to the construction, interpretation and effect of this agreement shall be settled by arbitration pursuant to the applicable rule of the American Arbitration Association. However, prior to arbitration, all applicable AKC bylaws, rules, regulations, and procedures must first be followed as set forth in the AKC Charter and Bylaws, Rules, Regulations, and published policies and guidelines.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### AKC Therapy Dog Title Application Checklist

To Make Sure You've Included Everything:

- Complete all sections of this application
- Proof of certification/registration by a therapy dog organization (e.g., copy of ID card, certificate, etc).
- 1) Therapy Dog Record of Visits Form, or, 2) Certificate or wallet card from certifying organization indicating the dog has made 50 visits or more, or 3) Letter on facility letterhead stating dog has made at least 50 visits.
- Submit fee for recording the AKC Therapy Dog title (\$20) made payable to "American Kennel Club"