

STEPS TO MEMBERSHIP—READ CAREFULLY



Thank you for applying for membership to Rainbow Animal Assisted Therapy.

STEP 1	INTRODUCTION TO ANIMAL ASSISTED THERAPY CLASS - taking the class and passing the Rainbow Registry Test is required for membership. PLEASE NOTE: <u>There is additional training required to work in a Rainbow hospital program.</u>
STEP 2	MEMBERSHIP PACKET
APPLICATION	Complete both sides the Membership Application
ANNUAL DUES	Enclose a check for your annual dues payable to Rainbow AAT and mail with your application. \$45 membership fee for individuals or a \$65 membership per family. (more than one handler)
CODE OF ETHICS	Must be signed in acknowledgement that the Rainbow Visitation Guidelines will be read and agreed upon by applicant.
AVAILABILITY FORM	Complete the Availability form . We will use this input to identify programs that match your interests and schedule as well as what is a good fit for your dog.
VETERINARY REQUIREMENT FORM	Enclose a copy of your rabies certificate or invoice showing current rabies vaccinations with dates. Attach to vet requirement form and sign at the bottom of the form. KEEP A COPY FOR YOUR FILES.
CHECKLIST	Use this as a guide to ensure you mail in ALL the necessary information.
MAIL/EMAIL TO:	RAINBOW ANIMAL ASSISTED THERAPY 6042 W. Oakton St., Morton Grove, IL 60053 ATTN: Robin Simborg or SCAN AND EMAIL TO rainbowaat@gmail.com

AFTER WE RECEIVE YOUR APPLICATION...

Once your application is processed, you will receive an invitation email regarding a **background check** and confirmation email with detailed instructions on your next step, **STEP 3**, the WITHOUT DOG OBSERVATION

The background check process will be underwritten by Rainbow with no expense to any applicant or working member. An "invitation" from Verified Volunteers will be sent to you with a link into their site and information regarding the background checks. You will then go on-line to fill out the application process through "Verified Volunteers". This is not a credit check.

WITHOUT DOG OBSERVATIONS

STEP 3

Step 3 requires you to visit 1 Rainbow program without your dog to *observe* working Rainbow teams in a therapy environment. We do encourage you to visit as many different kinds of programs as possible.
If only doing one, that observation must be done in other than a library or school Read to the Dog program. Instructions on where to send the completed form are at the bottom of the form.

AFTER WE RECEIVE YOUR COMPLETED WITHOUT DOG OBSERVATION FORM

Once your completed without dog form is received, you will be emailed the detailed instructions on the next step, **STEP 4**, the WITH DOG OBSERVATIONS.

WITH DOG OBSERVATIONS

STEP 4

Step 4 requires you to visit 3 Rainbow programs **with your dog** where you will observe and participate with your dog in the program. We encourage you to visit as many different kinds of programs as possible. **With dog visits are not permitted in hospital programs.**
Upon completion of the WITH DOG observations you become a Rainbow member. Summaries of your visits and recommendations for internship placement is in process at this time.
Also upon completion of your WITH DOG observations, you will be mailed a Rainbow Membership Card and an ID tag for your dog. Your dog must wear this tag when participating in Rainbow programs.
Rainbow dog tags and member's membership cards are to be used in Rainbow programs only.

STEP 5	<p>INTERNSHIP</p> <p>Once you have completed Steps 1 through 4, it is our goal to have you begin working in a program. You will be placed in an internship, Step 5, usually 4-6 sessions, working alongside experienced teams, in order to give you additional opportunities to develop more therapy skills and techniques beyond what is taught in our AAT classes. PLEASE NOTE: <u>There is additional training required to work in a Rainbow hospital program.</u></p> <p>The programs in which you intern may or may not be permanent depending on the needs of the program, where you are interested in volunteering and your dog's skill's level.</p>
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WHEN YOU HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED YOUR INTERNSHIP...

FINAL PROGRAM PLACEMENT

Rainbow will try to accommodate your program preferences when being placed in a permanent program rotation, however there are other factors in making this final placement decision. A couple of these considerations may include, but not exclusively; the program may already be filled with volunteers or the temperament of the dog doesn't work well in that program's environment.

1. You will be contacted by our Program Coordinators for permanent program placement.
2. **PLEASE NOTE:** There is additional training required to work in a Rainbow hospital program (a 2 part Medical Training class at no additional fee.)
3. **:Due to AAT protocols and program facility requests** almost all Rainbow programs are conducted during weekdays (usually mornings) especially at schools and hospitals when staff and participants are available. Less than 25% of facilities visited have programs on weekends or during evening hours. While our library Read to the Dog programs usually are held on evenings or weekends, they do not meet on a regular basis. Most of the library read to the dog programs are conducted in the evening, some are on Saturday mornings.
4. Most Rainbow therapy programs accommodate the needs of children.

