

DIABETES ALERT DOG (DAD)
Pre-Purchase Suggestions and Questions

WHAT IS THE TRAINING ORGANIZATION'S REPUTATION?

*Are there complaints or civil suits with local authorities, newspapers, and state attorney generals
Any complaints against the trainer to better news media, business bureaus, state attorneys, etc.
Any previous or current civil suits filed against the trainer regardless of the business name*

WHAT ARE THE TRAINER'S CREDENTIALS?

Number of years of canine training experience and specifically diabetes alert dogs

WHAT IS THE TRAINER'S EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE?

*Membership in professional organizations
Recommendations and references*

WHAT IS THE FEE AND WHAT DOES IT INCLUDE?

*Fees vary from a few hundred to several thousand dollars
Is the dog expensive because of extensive training and care or is this a possible scam*

WILL THE DOG BE REQUIRED TO PASS THE SERVIC DOG STANDARDIZED PUBLIC ACCESS TEST?

*The test usually requires a minimum of 120 hours of obedience and special task training
Here is a link <http://www.iaadp.org/iaadp-minimum-training-standards-for-public-access.html>*

WILL YOU BE TRAINED TO HANDLE THE DOG, RECOGNIZE ALERT BEHAVIOR, REWARD ALERTS, AND CONDUCT MAINTENANCE TRAINING?

Is the dog paired with you and/or the diabetic and instruction provided

IF FUND-RAISING, WHO GETS THE FUNDS COLLECTED ABOVE THE COST OF THE DOG?

*Non-profit organizations (501 3-c) are required to follow IRS regulations.
Will donors receive tax deductible receipts
Is trainer/organization allowed to fund raise without your consent or knowledge*

HOW MANY TRAINING HOURS WERE SPENT WITH THE DOG?

Did the dog receive both obedience and the diabetic's individual scent training

WHAT TYPE OF FOLLOW-UP CONSULTATION IS AVAILABLE?

*Is there an additional fee
What is the time limit
Is the trainer readily available to assist with any questions*

IS THERE A HEALTH GUARANTEE AND WHAT DOES IT INCLUDE?

*Current vaccinations
Parasite controls
Heart worms
Genetic testing for health issues common to the breed. Hip/elbow dysplasia, progressive retinal atrophy, additional eye problems, etc.*

WILL THE DOG'S TRAINING BE BEHAVIOR SPECIFIC FOR YOUR SITUATION?

*Is the dog good in an environment of kids, other dogs, cats, farms, cities, busy streets, schools, or whatever is your current environment
If any family member is allergic to dog hair will the trainer find a hypo-allergenic friendly dog and if so, is there an extra fee?
For a diabetic child will the dog alert to you or another person in addition to or instead of the child*

HOW LONG IS THE WAITING LIST FOR A DOG?

The waiting list for a WELL TRAINED dog can be two to three years

HOW MANY DOGS DOES THE TRAINER/ORGANIZATION PLACE PER YEAR?

If a high number of dogs (double digits) are placed, how did your dog get all their training hours? (what is the number of dogs per trainer ratio?)

WHAT IS THE AVERAGE AGE OF PLACED DOGS?

*Ask yourself if a young dog or puppy can accomplish the above listed
Professionally trained dogs may be two years or often older*

WILL YOU GET A SIGNED CONTRACT?

Can an attorney review the contract before signing

ONCE A DOG IS READY FOR PLACEMENT, CAN YOU SEE A DEMONSTRATION OF OBEDIENCE BEHAVIOR

*Does the dog sit, stay, down, heel, and recall on YOUR command
Does the dog remain quiet and not bark, growl, or engage with other animals or people
Is the dog calm in a public area, around noise, or other distractions*

WHEN READY FOR PLACEMENT CAN THE TRAINER DESCRIBE THE DOGS ALERT BEHAVIOR?

*Does the dog alert on a diabetic odor training aid
What is the alert behavior*

ONCE A DOG IS READY FOR PLACEMENT DOES THE DOG ALERT ON LOW BLOOD GLUCOSE?

Are you allowed to spend time with the dog to see if it alerts prior to placement and payment

Suggested link: IAADP Minimum Training Standards for Public Access www.iaadp.org