



LEADER DOGS
FOR THE BLIND

FOLLOW THE LEADER   

To learn more about guide dog training options or to apply, visit LeaderDog.org or call 888.777.5332.

Guide Dog Training
Options that fit your
one-of-a-kind goals.



FOLLOW THE LEADER   



Since 1939, we've empowered people who are blind, visually impaired or Deaf-Blind with lifelong skills for safe and independent travel. We understand that everyone's abilities, circumstances and the way they learn are different. That's why we offer a variety of free training options, so our life-changing programs can be tailored to meet each client's needs at every stage of life.

Guide Dog Training at Leader Dog is available for people who are:

- > Legally blind
- > At least 16 years old
- > Able to care for a dog
- > Safe and effective with orientation and mobility (O&M) skills

ON-CAMPUS TRAINING

This three-week residential training takes place at Leader Dog's campus. It takes advantage of time away from home distractions to help solidify client skills, understanding of working concepts and bonding with a new dog.

- > Most popular option with shortest wait time
- > Most comprehensive covering city, suburban, small town, rural and indoor environments
- > Most amount of time training alongside guide dog mobility instructors
- > Clients receive support from and share experiences with fellow trainees
- > In-house orientation and mobility support is available if needed
- > Past clients always say the food is great

IN-HOME DELIVERY

A guide dog mobility instructor goes to the client's home environment to provide one-on-one tailored instruction. Training duration is up to 10 days.

- > Clients can continue to care for their families and fulfill some work commitments during evening hours
- > Focuses on clients' standard routes to work, school, doctors' appointments, etc.
- > Works around personal and/or family health issues

FLEX

Combines the benefits of on-campus training and in-home delivery for maximum flexibility.

- > Provides a solid foundation of training
- > Personal follow-up in home environment
- > Allows clients to train in family and work situations



URBAN

For clients who live in or frequently travel to a heavily populated urban area.

- > First two weeks take place on campus at Leader Dog
- > Week three of training is held in Chicago, Illinois
- > Clients get intensive exposure to mass transit, crowds, heavy traffic, complex intersections and more
- > Private hotel room in suburban location
- > Two-to-one client/instructor ratio in Chicago

WARM WEATHER

This 10-day training takes place in Naples, Florida, and is a good choice for clients who live in warm climates and for those with health conditions that limit their ability to train in cold weather.

- > Small class setting with two-to-one client/instructor ratio
- > Private hotel room
- > Occurs during winter months
- > First-time clients get home follow-up if needed

DEAF-BLIND

This three-week training takes place at Leader Dog's campus and is specifically for clients who are Deaf-Blind. Communication method is American Sign Language (ASL), either visual or tactile, depending on client needs.

- > Covers city, suburban, small town, rural and indoor environments
- > Small class sizes with one-to-one or two-to-one client/instructor ratio
- > May include a Leader Dog that is dual-trained to lead and respond to sounds
- > Personal follow-up in home environment if needed

All programs are completely free, including travel.