

## **Assistance Dog License**

According to the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) section 955.011:

“When an application is made for registration of an assistance dog and the owner can show proof by certificate or other means that the dog is an assistance dog, the owner of the dog shall be exempt from any fee for the registration.”

Before we will issue an “Assistance Dog License” we must see proof from a “nonprofit special agency” that the dog has been trained to be of assistance to you and this training meets the requirements of the law. We will make a copy of your certificate and call the facility that issued it to verify that the dog has actually been trained to benefit your circumstances.

To qualify, the dog must have been trained to assist a sight-impaired, hearing-impaired or mobility-impaired owner.

See below the definitions from the statute:

- Assistance dog - means a guide dog, hearing dog, or service dog that has been trained by a nonprofit special agency.
- Guide dog - means a dog that has been trained or is training to assist a blind person.
- Hearing dog - means a dog that has been trained or is in training to assist a deaf or hearing impaired person.
- Service dog - means a dog that has been trained or is in training to assist a mobility impaired person.

Additionally, the statute defines the qualifying disabilities further:

- Mobility impaired person – any person, regardless of age, who is subject to a physiological defect or deficiency regardless of its cause, nature or extent that renders the person unable to move about without the aid of crutches, a wheelchair, or any other form of support, or that limits the persons functional ability to ambulate, climb, descend, sit, rise, or perform any related function.
  - Mobility Impaired person includes a person with a neurological or psychological disability that limits the person’s ability to ambulate, climb, descend, sit, rise, or perform any related function.
  - Mobility Impaired person also includes a person with a seizure disorder and a person who is diagnosed with autism.
- Blind means either of the following:
  - Vision twenty/two hundred or less in the better eye with proper correction;
  - Field defect in the better eye with proper correction that contracts the peripheral field so that the diameter of the visual field subtends an angle no greater than 20 degrees.