

APWAP Orientation

General Requirements:

1. Passed temperament test and veterinary health screen; health screen must be done yearly at a minimum.
2. Paid dues and signed Volunteer Indemnity Agreement
3. Three supervised visits with a member of the supervision team

Handler Requirements:

1. Must be in good health with no symptoms of any infectious disease.
2. Dress appropriate for the facility – APWAP shirt, ID badge, closed toed shoes and slacks appropriate for the facility and arrive on time.
3. You must accept full responsibility for your animal's action and must be always in complete control of the animal. Always keep your animal on a leash
4. Respect the rights of residents and staff. Work with the staff of the facility to determine how the animal's interaction will benefit the patient or resident. Always ask the person first if they want to touch or hold the animal. ALWAYS place it on the patient's lap, NEVER in their arms or hands. NEVER leave an animal unattended with a patient, for the animal's safety and because the patient needs YOU too.
5. Make sure to inform someone at the facility if there are any problems with patients.
6. Make sure your pet has an opportunity to eliminate before entering the facility. You must carry a bag to pick up any waste, place it in the trash and wash your hands or use alcohol hand rub.
7. The primary job of the handler is to watch their pet for signs of stress and remove the pet from the situation before it becomes too stressed.
8. There should be one handler per animal.
9. Do not allow your animal to visit with other animals during a visit. Maintain at least three feet between animals. Only one animal in a room at a time.
10. Report any bite or scratch incident to the facility or if there was any aggressive behavior shown by your pet during the visit (including growling, snapping, biting, urination, defecation etc.) you must complete an incident report and contact a APWAP officer.

Animal Requirements:

1. Keep a copy of current rabies vaccine with you whenever you are visiting
2. Do not visit if your animal has any wounds, skin conditions, gastrointestinal issues or any other health conditions that might be transmitted to people.
3. Do not visit if your animal is ill.
4. Recognize stress in animal and remove immediately. Be the animals' advocate.
5. Do not visit if your female is in season.
6. Free from internal and external parasites.
7. Bathed within 24 hours of a visit.
8. Ears are clean and must have good dental hygiene.
9. Nails are trimmed and filed.
10. Any bodily fluids from your pet must be cleaned up by you as soon as possible

11. Do not feed a raw diet.
12. Animal must wear APWAP collar or harness, bandana, and leash.
13. If an animal is allowed in a patient's bed a barrier such as a towel or sheet should be placed between the animal's coat and the patient linens. Have the person use alcohol hand rub or wash their hands after contact with your pet.
14. Do not allow your animal to lick a person's wound or devices. Discourage licking!
15. Only allow people to give a treat to your pet by using an open hand.
16. Keep your pet from eating anything off the floor in a facility.

Name

Signature

Date