



Journey Dog Team Training Program Curriculum Overview

Phase 1: Journey Dog Team Training Program Foundation Curriculum

The JDTP foundation curriculum immerses handlers in the fundamentals of reward-based teaching methods. Practical training exercises and live demonstrations allow participants to refine their canine handling skills and teach important skills to their dogs. Additionally, the curriculum explores activities designed to strengthen the bond between humans and animals, while dynamic group discussions provide an introduction to canine behavior, communication, and learning. Key topics addressed in the curriculum include:

- Application of humane dog training techniques
- Canine handling techniques
- Canine obedience skills and pattern games
- Bonding activities to foster positive human-animal relationships
- Understanding canine communication, learning, behavior, and development

Phase 2: Journey Dog Team Training Program Intermediate Curriculum

The JDTP intermediate curriculum provides comprehensive coaching to teams, aimed at enhancing their knowledge and training proficiencies. The program prioritizes effective communication, humane teaching, and the welfare of the canine partners. Handlers are provided with invaluable insights to empower them on their journey while continuing to foster a mutually beneficial human-animal relationship. With expert guidance, handlers refine existing behaviors and introduce new techniques and skills to further advance their service dogs' development. Key topics addressed in the curriculum include:

- Continuation of canine obedience skills and pattern games
- Refinement of foundation behaviors and skills
- Continued focus on bonding activities to foster positive human-animal relationships
- Further exploration of canine communication, learning, behavior, and development



Phase 3: Journey Dog Team Training Program Advanced Curriculum

The JDTP advanced curriculum focuses on coaching teams toward effective public access and service dog task performance. Within a supportive environment and through mentorship, it aims to cultivate the growth and confidence of both the handler and the dog. The curriculum covers essential topics to prepare participants for real-world scenarios. Below are the key topics addressed in the program:

- Awareness of general service dog laws, standards, etc
- Insight into the roles and responsibilities of a service dog handler
- Public-appropriate manners and etiquette for service dog teams
- Skill practice for the JDTP Service Dog Public Access Test
- Training for service dog tasks related to the handler's needs and disability
- Behavior management strategies for maintaining and addressing appropriate canine behavior in public settings
- Socialization and exposure activities for public access
- Counter conditioning and desensitization for public access
- Generalizing previously learned skills
- Emergency and safety considerations for service dogs, handlers, and the general public
- Handling skills for navigating various environments and situations
- Assessing and working through distractions and various challenges encountered in public settings
- Wellness and welfare considerations for service dogs
- Handler advocacy skills for interacting with the public and addressing access issues
- Maintenance training to ensure consistent and appropriate performance