

Career Opportunity (Full Time, Permanent)



Instructor – Autism Assistance Dogs

Are you passionate about transforming the lives of Canadians living with disabilities for meaningful impact and transformative change?

SEEKING AN ASSISTANCE DOG TRAINER TO JOIN OUR PACK!

Lions Foundation Canada Dog empowers Canadians living with disabilities to navigate their world with confidence and independence by providing a Dog Guide at no cost and supporting them in their journey together. LFCDG is the only school to train Dog Guides in seven distinct programs and serves 150-200 clients annually while supporting over 1100 active clients across Canada. LFCDG operates out of Oakville, ON, with a breeding and training facility in Breslau, ON, with plans for a new leading-edge facility in 2025.

Our Values:

- **Integrity**
- **Diversity & Inclusion**
- **Excellence**
- **Empathy**
- **Respect**

The Opportunity:

The Instructor reports directly to the Head Instructor while participating as a team member in one or more of Dog Guide's specific training programs including Autism Assistance (AAD). This is a working level position in which the incumbent trains dogs to assist clients with disabilities. In addition to performing the job of an assistance dog trainer, the Instructor may perform a leadership role assisting the Head Instructors and overseeing the training of staff in the Apprenticeship Program including performing on-the-job training in dog training/handling, client instruction and carrying out assessments, class placements and follow-ups as well as performing a coordination role with clients and applicants within one or more of the specific training programs. This role requires occasional travel across Canada and filling overnight shifts while clients are attending class.

Work is predominantly carried out in a training environment located in Breslau or Oakville and outside work regardless of inclement weather conditions is required.

There is a fair amount of physical effort required during a typical day including:

- Walking large dogs up to 5Km per day (assessing dogs in training);
- Lifting and restraining up to 70 lb. dogs safely (exams, getting into training van);
- Handling rambunctious dogs that bite, jump, and get underfoot.

You will bring to the opportunity:

- Minimum of two years of experience working in canine training and/or proven success as an Apprentice Instructor or equivalent program
- Degree in a training or animal related program is desirable (e.g., adult education, behavioural science, animal behaviour, biology psychology, etc.)
- Proven passion for and ability to work with dogs of all breeds and sizes
- Self-starter and able to work independently with limited supervision but also the willingness and ability to effectively function as a member of a larger team as well as take and follow instructions and directions
- Demonstrated capacity to work in a busy and at times, noisy work environment
- Excellent organization and time-management skills with the ability to effectively prioritize workloads, multi-task, respond adeptly to shifting priorities and act quickly to immediate needs
- Previous experience working within a not-for-profit organization is preferred
- French language skills would be considered an asset
- (ASSET) Graduate of a recognized canine animal Instructor Certification (e.g., ADI or IGDF) and/or proven knowledge and basic experience in humane and modern canine training principles and theories including canine psychology, behaviour, training and behaviour assessments, and general dog care, health care and safety

What's in it for you?

- Total compensation includes benefits and future opportunities to participate in the RRSP program
- Opportunity to work in an organization that puts people first and offers a flexible and caring work environment
- Paid time off over the Christmas holidays in addition to regular vacation
- The opportunity to work with talented and compassionate colleagues (both two and four-legged variety!)

Job Type: Full Time, Permanent

Benefits:

- Dental care
- Employee assistance program
- Extended health care
- Life insurance
- Paid vacation
- RRSP

Salary: \$37,400 – \$44,972

Please send your resume by emailing careerslfc@dogguides.com for consideration. Resumes will be kept for six months. Please quote the job title in the subject line.

Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides is committed to employing people from diverse backgrounds, and we actively demonstrate inclusiveness through fair, equitable, and accessible hiring practices. We recognize the strength of different experiences, backgrounds, and perspectives and welcome candidates who identify as visible minorities, Indigenous people, persons with disabilities, and persons within the LGBTQ+ community. We feel it is important as an organization that all people have access and opportunity to be employed, to be valued, and to be respected. Accommodations for job applicants with disabilities will be provided upon request during the recruitment, assessment, selection and placement process. Alternative format available on Request.