Service Dogs
• Family
• Nov. 20, 2008 & beyond
• DSF 2012
• March 2012 (training)
Bolt enters our life
Service dog at work...

You/your child is responsible for the SD.
Service dog at play.

Yes, they get to play!
Basic Information

Definition: Service animals are animals that are individually trained to perform tasks for people with disabilities such as guiding people who are blind, alerting people who are deaf, pulling wheelchairs, alerting and protecting a person who is having a seizure, or performing other special tasks. Service animals are working animals, not pets.

• SD (Service Dog)/SDIT (Service Dog in Training)
  • One protected by ADA, one is not, but may be protected by state

Where do you find the rules regarding service dogs:
• Group supplying/training service dog
• State website
  ex. Mo.gov; info for individual with disabilities
Service Animals

Home > Service Animals

Service Animals: The Americans with Disabilities Act and applicable state laws protect individuals with disabilities who utilize service animals to enter public entities and place of employment. Due to the ignorance or confusion about the law and the use of these animals, the Department of Justice (DOJ) has provided new guidelines about service animals. This menu tab will provide a link to the DOJ's website and the link to Service Animals Allowed guide. Revised ADA definition of "Service Animal" from the Department of Justice:

http://www.ada.gov/reg02010/factsheets/title2_factsheet.html

- ADA Business Brief: Service Animals
- ADA Revised Requirements: Service Animals (html version) | (pdf version)
- American Veterinary Medical Association: ADA Revised Requirements: Service Animals during emergencies.
- Etiquette - Canine Companions for Independence
- Provides information on how to act around a service dog.
- Frequently Asked Questions about Service Animals and the ADA
- How to Make Points of Service Accessible to Persons with Disabilities
- Disaster Preparedness and Response Program
- Disabled people and disaster planning's guide on emergency services accessibility.
- International Association of Assistance Dog Partners (IAADP): Assistance Dog Laws and Legal Resources
- The International Association of Assistance Dog Partners (IAADP) includes information on access issues including court cases and a guide to state, national, and international laws related to service dogs.
- KSDS, Inc.
- Peas For Freedom
- Service Animal Resources in Missouri
- United States Department of Justice - Americans with Disabilities Act
- Questions About Service Animals in Places of Business
What can my service dog be trained to do?

• Diabetic alert
• Detecting allergies; ex. Peanut, gluten
• Assisting the blind and deaf
• Seizure response
  open doors, get help carry medications (daily and ER)
  dial 911 get meds pick up dropped objects
  support on side block doorways/stairs support on stairs/walking
  push handicap button pull wheelchair carry oxygen tank
1. *Where do I go to find a SD?*
   - Decide whether you want a SDIT or SD
   - Any age requirements of the company
   - State website
   - Google companies in your area
   - Use FB
   - Support Groups/other families

2. *What happens if training needs change in the future?*
   - Talk to the company that provided SD to see what’s covered
   - Sometimes the company will help and sometimes it’s up to you

3. *Do SD have to be professionally trained?*
   - People with disabilities have the right to train the dog themselves.
   - I would encourage getting help, if you have no experience with training SD
4. *Can I get a service dog if my child has irregular seizures or seizures every 3 months?*
   • Yes, you can.

5. *How do I get a new vest for my SD?*
   • The company may provide one or purchase additional ones
   • Online sources

6. *Wishing our SD alerted with a more definite sign.*
   • For us, Bolt learned to use the med bag (ex.)

7. *Are service dogs trained to alert?*
   • No. Some dogs can, but it’s not a task that can be trained.
   • Dogs can be trained to react to a seizure, Bolt gets the meds, hits a 911 button, & supports Gabe on his side during the seizure. (Some times dogs will pick up on these specific tasks and use as an alert)

8. *Are emotional support, therapy, comfort, or companion animals considered service animals?*
   • According to ADA: No, SD need to be trained to perform specific jobs or tasks
9. **Can SD be trained only to respond to TC or can they respond to other types, like complex partials?**
   - The answer is yes to both questions. They can be trained to assist/respond to TC and other types by using certain commands.
   - Remember responding is different than alerting.
   - With Bolt, no matter what type of seizure, we give the command to “get the meds”. Bolt retrieves the meds and stays near Gabe or assists him on his side if needed. Then, if 911 is needed, we give the command to “call 911” and Bolt hits the 911 button.

10. **Do SD have to wear a vest or pouch identifying them as service animals?**
    - No they do not.
    - May help in some areas

11. **Hotels are not allowed to charge a cleaning or pet fee for SD.**

12. **Is a SD allowed in the hospital and ambulance with its person?**
    - Generally yes. Depending on part of hospital and room in ambulance
13. **What questions can be asked to determine if a dog is a SD?**
   - The are 2
     - Is the SD required because of a disability?
     - What work/task has the dog been trained to perform?
   - That’s it!

14. **Times a SD can be excluded when in public (not allowed in certain areas):**
   - SD is out of the control of the owner or very disruptive (misbehaving)
   - Pools (Public health does not allow dogs in public pools)
   - Certain parts of a Zoo or place with other animals
   - It is not yet potty trained
   - Religious institutions are exempt from ADA, so check with your church
Our Angel: Bolt

• SD go through “Teen” years too.
• Lots of continuous work & they go were you go
• It is like having another child (water, food, etc.)
• Grooming & Vet care
• I wouldn’t change a thing
  • Extra eyes on Gabe
  • Alerting has been amazing
  • Tries to help calm Gabe when he starts running around
  • Cuddly supportive pillow