



## Pet Team Guidelines

### Step One

Before completing a volunteer application, please review the behavior checklist\* below to see if you and your dog are ready for the Pet Therapy Program at Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt.

- My dog is registered through Pet Partners or Intermountain Therapy Animals.
- My dog is at least one year old and has lived with me for at least one year.
- My dog can walk calmly on a six-foot leash not wearing a training collar and not pulling on the leash.
- My dog can perform basic commands (sit / down / stay) without treats.
- My dog can approach people for petting without jumping on them.
- My dog does not lick people when greeting them.
- My dog takes treats nicely from hands without biting.
- My dog is comfortable (calm) in unfamiliar surroundings including walking on slick floors.
- My dog is accepting of the presence of other dogs.
- My dog is willing to make eye contact with strangers and engage with them in a calm manner.

*\*This checklist is specific to our dog teams at Vanderbilt; however, if you have a different type of pet, other qualifications may apply.*

*\*This checklist is not all-inclusive, and other requirements may be identified depending on the specific volunteer location.*

### Step Two

If you are able to answer **yes to each checklist item**, and you are able to fulfill the volunteer commitment (as referenced in the Volunteer Placement Opportunities information) please [click here](#) to complete our online application.

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