

Released Dog Adoption Application



BERGIN UNIVERSITY of CANINE STUDIES

Occasionally Bergin University of Canine Studies has a dog that is not suited to the high demands associated with service, facility, or specialist therapy work due to temperament and/or physical limitations. These dogs are released from our program and then become available for adoption. Bergin University of Canine Studies release dogs are available for purchase. The dogs are fully vaccinated, micro-chipped, spayed or neutered, and have received various levels of training. These dogs are not considered service, facility, or specialist therapy dogs; however, they can still make excellent companion animals. *Please note that Bergin University of Canine Studies' released dogs have been trained with positive reinforcement/force-free methods. Bergin University of Canine Studies will not place a dog in a home that intends to utilize aversive training methods and tools (i.e. shock collars, prong collars, choke chains, physical corrections, etc.) on the BUCS released dog.*

We accept rolling applications for released dogs and will contact you *if and when* we have a dog available for adoption that we feel is best suited for your home. *We cannot guarantee you a released dog and we do not accept applications for specific dogs.* Dogs are released from our program for specific reasons and when considering an adoption, we will place a dog in the home we feel is best suited for the dog's needs and temperament. If we have a dog available for you, we will inform you about the dog's limitations and training level. In addition, we only place these dogs within a reasonable driving distance of the site where the dog is being released and will not fly dogs to their new homes.

Please fill out the following application and submit to jenniferl@berginu.edu. Thank you for your interest in adopting a Bergin University of Canine Studies released dog.

Applicant Information

Date: _____

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Street Address Apt/Unit #

City

State

Zip Code

Email: _____

Phone: _____ [] Mobile [] Landline

1. How did you hear about Bergin University of Canine Studies?

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2. Do you have any current or previous involvement with Bergin University of Canine Studies (BUCS)? yes no

If yes, please explain: _____

3. Are you a veteran or service member? yes no

4. Why are you interested in adopting one of our released dogs?

5. Briefly describe your family and lifestyle.

Household Information

6. In what type of residence do you live?

house townhouse apartment duplex condo other: _____

7. Do you own or rent your residence? own rent

8. If you rent your home, can you provide written verification that companion dogs are permitted in your residence, along with your landlord's name and phone number? yes no n/a

Landlord's Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

9. Does your residence have: a fenced yard an enclosed area neither

Please describe in more detail: _____

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10. Please list **all members of your household and their ages**:

11. Do you have children who visit regularly or you visit regularly? yes no

If yes, please explain: _____

12. Is anyone in your home allergic to dogs yes no

13. Please **list all pets** in your household, including their types, ages, and whether they've been neutered or spayed.

14. Can you provide proof of vaccinations for your pets? yes no

Veterinarian Name: _____

Veterinarian Phone: _____

15. Does any person in your home have special needs? yes no

If yes, please explain:

16. Do any members of your household have any criminal history, have been on parole or probation, have any pending charges or charged with driving under the influence or abuse/neglect?
 yes no

If yes, please explain: _____

17. Does your home have a pool, pond or other body of water? yes no

Please describe in more detail:

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Caregiving Information

18. Are you a veterinarian? yes no
19. Are you a vet tech? yes no
20. Are you a dog trainer/behaviorist? yes no

If yes, please explain in more detail: _____

21. Do you hold any other profession related to dogs? yes no

If yes, please explain in more detail: _____

22. Have you ever taken a dog through a dog training class or done any formal dog training?
 yes no

If yes, please explain in more detail:

23. Do you have any disabilities, mental health conditions, or medical conditions that may impact your ability to care for and handle the dog? yes no

If yes, please explain: _____

24. Do you have any criminal history, have been on parole or probation, have any pending charges or charged with driving under the influence or abuse/neglect? yes no

If yes, please explain: _____

25. Would you be willing to attend formal training classes with the released dog? yes no

If yes, please explain in more detail:

26. Do you plan to have medical insurance for the dog? yes no

27. Who will be the primary caregiver for the dog? _____

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28. How will you exercise your new dog?
- On leash walks
 - Off leash in dog parks, trails, etc.
 - In backyard
 - Running
 - Interactive play (fetch/tug)

Please explain in more detail: _____

29. How often will you exercise your new dog?

30. Where will the dog stay during the day? _____

31. Where will the dog stay during the night? _____

32. How many total hours per day, on average, would the dog be alone (without adults present)?
_____ hours/day

Please explain in more detail: _____

33. Where will the dog be contained while s/he is alone? _____

34. Where will the dog stay when you are traveling or on vacation (non-dog friendly trips)?

35. What do you plan to feed the dog? _____

36. Please tell us about any dogs you have had *previously* as an adult (breed, age, gender, indoor/outdoor dog, etc.). How long did you own the dog? What became of the dog?

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37. Please provide any additional information and detail about you, your household or lifestyle that you believe is important for us to know:

Dog Preferences

38. Do you have a breed or gender preference? *Please note we may not be able to accommodate your preferences.*

male female no gender preference

Golden Retriever Labrador Retriever Golden/Lab Cross No breed preference

39. What energy level dog would you prefer?

high moderate mellow no preference

40. Would you be interested in adopting a dog with orthopedic problems? yes no

Examples: Hip dysplasia, elbow dysplasia, cruciate ligament injury, etc.

Joint issues can cause arthritis at an earlier age than normal. Dogs should maintain a lean body weight throughout their lifetime, and avoid high impact exercise (ball chasing, Frisbee, agility training). Normal exercise (walks, hiking) is fine and dogs should maintain muscle mass. Joint supplements can be considered.

41. Would you be interested in adopting a dog with allergies? yes no

Sensitive/allergic to either food or something in the environment. Allergies could be known or have an unknown prognosis. This can present as skin problems (rash, hot spots, ear infections) or digestion issues (poor stools, vomiting). Dogs may need specific food (prescription or non-prescription), medication, or regular baths to manage allergies.

42. Would you be interested in adopting a dog with other medical conditions? yes no

Severity and medical requirements range based on the dog's situation; it can require regular blood work and/or medication to manage. Some medical conditions may be progressive and

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others may have an unknown prognosis. Eye issues/Cataracts: many do not affect the dog's vision as a pet dog, but some eye issues can be progressive or require medication.

43. Would you be interested in adopting a dog with a high activity level? yes no

An energetic dog who requires ample daily exercise and mental stimulation. May also be excitable and jump up during greetings or pull when walking on leash in exciting environments, or be "busy" and need help learning to be calm in the house. The ideal placement may be someone who will engage in agility or dog sports with the dog.

44. Would you be interested in adopting a dog that requires high management? yes no

Typically, a confident dog needs clear and calm leadership. May include dogs who can get easily excited or over-stimulated, leading to jumpy and mouthy behavior, such as grabbing clothing, putting their mouths on people's hands/arms, or avoiding having their collar grabbed (playing "keep away"). These dogs may be more independent or not as eager to please. Some may also be sensitive to having their body handled during grooming or vet procedures. The ideal placement does not have small children and can provide consistent boundaries, structure, and continued obedience training.

45. Would you be interested in adopting a dog that lacks confidence? yes no

Dogs lacking confidence generally have more sensitive personalities and require a handler who can support them through patient and positive training. Dogs of this type may be fearful, shy, or nervous in certain environmental situations, or around unusual objects, loud noises, or unfamiliar dogs or people.

46. Would you be interested in adopting a dog that barks? yes no

May include: alert barking to noises or objects/people, "demand" or "attention-seeking" barking at people, barking when left in a crate, barking when excited or frustrated.

47. Would you be interested in a dog with distraction? yes no

Dogs can become excited around other dogs and/or people and/or other things in the environment such as birds, cats, squirrels, etc. May pull on leash, jump up, bark with excitement, or be difficult to refocus on the handler. Typically needs continued training and management, along with time to mature.

48. Would you be interested in adopting a dog that is not compatible with other dogs? yes no

Typically friendly with people, dogs are uncomfortable around other dogs and may avoid other dogs or may growl/snap/bark when they approach. Dogs may need careful introduction to other

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dogs. Can also be a dog who shows resource guarding around other dogs. The ideal placement has no other dogs in the home and is able to avoid interactions with unknown dogs. Not placed in homes with other dogs, or where other dogs visit often.

49. Would you be interested in adopting a dog that is not compatible with other animals?
 yes no

Not suitable for living with a cat or other small uncaged animals. Dog may chase cats or other small animals. Usually compatible with other dogs unless otherwise noted.

50. Would you be interested in adopting a dog with poor house manners? yes no

May include: inappropriate chewing, counter surfing, picking up inappropriate items (shoes, remote, paper, etc.), playing keep-away with stolen items. These dogs require additional training and consistent supervision in the home.

51. Would you be interested in adopting a dog with pica/ingestion? yes no

These dogs may eat non-food items (usually fabric such as socks, but could also be rocks, dirt, plastic, etc.). Most dogs have particular items they are most attracted to. Adopters must be able to manage the dog and environment to prevent access. Pica is very dangerous and can require emergency surgery.

52. Would you be interested in adopting a dog with resource guarding issues? yes no

Dog growls or snaps when a person or dog attempts to take an item the dog perceives as "high-value" (i.e. food, toy, etc.). Some dogs will only resource guard towards other dogs, some only towards people, some dogs to both. Resource guarding is managed with training and household structure to avoid these situations. Typically, not placed in homes with young children.

Application Process

53. Are you willing to take responsibility for the care, safety, and financial obligations of a dog for the rest of his/her life, possibly 10 years or more? yes no
54. Do you have the financial means to cover the annual cost (food, veterinary care, flea/tick/heartworm treatment, supplies, and other incidental expenses as needed) for a dog for its life, including the potential for an increase in expenses as the dog ages (approximately \$1000-\$5000+/year)? yes no
55. Do you have the capacity to meet the dog's social and emotional needs throughout the dog's life? yes no

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56. Do you have the capacity to bathe, toilet, groom, provide proper nutrition, exercise and ensure proper and timely veterinarian care for the dog? yes no
57. Do you consent to a visit to your home from a Bergin University of Canine Studies representative? yes no
58. If we can't come to your home due to distance, can you provide us with:
A video of your home, yard, family members and animals? yes no
Three references we can contact? yes no
59. Are you willing to travel to a Bergin University of Canine Studies site to pick up the dog?
 yes no

Acknowledgement and Signature

To complete the application, please read and initial next to the following statements and then sign and date.

_____ I acknowledge that the information contained on this form is true and correct. I understand that any misrepresentations of facts may result in the removal of the adopted dog from my home.

_____ I understand that I am applying for a released dog, not a service, facility, or specialist therapy dog. If I adopt a released dog, I will not attempt to represent it as a service, facility, or specialist therapy dog.

_____ I understand Bergin University of Canine Studies will not place a dog in a home that intends to utilize aversive training methods and tools (i.e. shock collars, prong collars, choke chains, physical corrections, etc.) on the BUCS released dog. If I adopt a released dog, I agree to not utilize aversive training methods and tools.

_____ I acknowledge submission of this application does not guarantee me a released dog.

_____ I acknowledge there is a fee for adopting the dog if I am not a veteran.

_____ I acknowledge and understand that these dogs are not permitted to fly in Cabin, nor will BUCS allow the dog to be flown in Cargo; these dogs must be transported via car. They will only be placed with an individual/family within a reasonable driving distance of the site where the dog is being released.

Applicant Signature

Date