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Government of South Australia
Dog and Cat Management Board

Part E: Public Access Test (to be completed by DCMB Approved Assessor)

Purpose of the Public Access Test (PAT)

The purpose of the Public Access Test (PAT) is to **assess if a dog is safe and effective in a public place or public passenger vehicle and able to be effectively controlled by the Handler of the dog.**

The PAT indicates the minimum standard that a dog must achieve to be considered safe and effective in accessing public places and public passenger vehicles on a daily basis.

The PAT can only be conducted by an assessor approved by the Dog and Cat Management Board. A PAT conducted by a person other than a Board approved assessor is an invalid test.

Every element of the PAT must be passed to demonstrate that the dog and Handler perform at the required standard.

Grounds for immediate failure of the PAT

The following are **grounds for immediate failure of the PAT** –

- A dog that displays any inappropriate aggressive behaviour (growling, biting, raising hackles, showing teeth etc).
- Any dog that urinates or defecates in a building or shows uncontrollable behaviour.
- Any dog that shows a display of guarding of people, territory, possessions or food.
- Any dog or Handler who, due to their actions or behaviour is likely to bring disrepute ie a lack of respect or loss of good reputation to the dog, approved assessor or the Board.
- Any Handler who ill-treats the dog or is not willing to abide by all relevant laws.
- A fail mark in any element of the PAT.

Scoring of the PAT

- A pass mark in all elements indicates that the dog displays appropriate behaviour.
- A fail mark in any element indicates that the dog displays inappropriate behaviour.



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Public Access Test (PAT) to be Completed by Approved Assessor

1. Handler and Dog Details

Date of PAT			
Approved Assessor Name			
Handler Name			
Dog Name			
Microchip Number		Registration Disc Number	

Notes:

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2. Well-Managed

2.1. The dog is settled, has a relaxed demeanor, is always under control and is unobtrusive [not pulling, or being in a state of higher arousal causing difficulty to Handler].	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
2.2. The dog is specifically trained to bark, to stop on command, and/or respond to voice/visual/signal/lead correction commands.	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
2.3. The team/unit is not a hazard/nuisance to the public.	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
2.4. The dog is well managed by the Handler - eg the dog responds to Handler's demands.	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
2.5. The dog Handler praises/rewards dog.	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
2.6. The dog recovers if startled and does not respond aggressively, or show fear, or continue to be affected after the incident has taken place.	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
2.7. The dog is on a lead/harness at all times.	Pass ☐	Fail ☐

Notes:

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3. Public Places/Public Passenger Vehicles					
The dog will remain responsive to handler. Handler to be in control at all times. No excessive sniffing, drooling or grabbing of food, or excitability to be displayed by the dog.					
3.1. The dog sits under the handler's chair/table or is out of the way (not a trip hazard) for a minimum of 5 minutes.				Pass ☐	Fail ☐
3.2. The dog shows control of food distraction, eg heeling, controlled down. ie dog stays in a controlled manner.				Pass ☐	Fail ☐
3.3. The dog does not use public furniture or public seating.				Pass ☐	Fail ☐
3.4. Choose at least three (3) options from the list below to continue with the following assessment questions.					
PLEASE NOTE: At least one (1) public place and one (1) public passenger vehicle must be chosen. If no taxi is available, then the trainer's car* may be used (eg for rural/remote areas).					
Bus	Pass ☐	Fail ☐	Taxi/Car	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
Busway station/interchange or train station	Pass ☐	Fail ☐	Ferry	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
Travelator	Pass ☐	Fail ☐	Escalator	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
Train/Tram	Pass ☐	Fail ☐	Lift	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
Café/Shopping Centre	Pass ☐	Fail ☐	Private Vehicle* (Rural/remote areas)	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
3.5. The dog correctly sits in a designated area of chosen transport option, does not try and sit on the seat, and dog enters and exits on command only. The handler is to be in control at all times.				Pass ☐	Fail ☐
3.6. The dog maintains a 'sit' or 'down' position if a person approaches eg sits near a table with a child.				Pass ☐	Fail ☐
Notes					

4. People Response

The dog is passed from front and rear and is non-reactive (eg does not shy away, growl, raise hackles) in any of the following categories:

4.1. Crowd and pedestrian traffic	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
4.2. Member of public	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
4.3. Approached by adult and child	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
4.4. Does not solicit attention	Pass ☐	Fail ☐

Notes:

5. Dog Distraction

5.1. Dog remains calm (slight anxiety is acceptable if less than 3 seconds).	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
5.2. Minimal interaction	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
5.3. Handler has control and dog is responsive to commands.	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
5.4. The dog remains controlled while another dog passes.	Pass ☐	Fail ☐

Notes:

6. Noise Distraction

The dog is to be subject to noise distractions eg loud places/vehicles/person's voice or whistle or dropping a folder.

6.1. Dog remains calm (slight anxiety or fear is acceptable if less than 3 secs).	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
6.2. Dog returns to assist Handler in a reasonable period of time.	Pass ☐	Fail ☐

Notes:

Overall Social Behaviour

Pass ☐ Fail ☐

Notes: Specific comments required regarding how the Handler corrects the dog, reassures the dog, control of leash/harness, and any undue overcorrection. Include observations about temperament and behaviour

Obedience And Respect		
7. Walk to Heel		
7.1. The dog is on the lead throughout the test and walks to heel on left or right of Handler, there is to be no straining or pulling on the lead and no soliciting public attention.	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
7.2. A two (2) metre recall on lead, dog to come directly back to Handler on command.	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
7.3. The dog is to be on the lead/harness at all times and if resting, eg at a café, or public passenger vehicle, or at work, the dog is to be close by to the Handler. The dog is not to wander away.	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
Notes:		
Overall Obedience and Respect	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
Notes: Include specific comments about the Handler management of obedience and respect of the dog and the temperament of the dog.		
Physical Health and Appearance		
8. Toileting/Hygiene Behaviour		
8.1. The dog presents as clean, well-groomed and healthy.	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
8.2. The dog is capable of displaying appropriate behaviour.	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
Notes:		
9. Acceptable Toileting Routine		
9.1. The dog does not attempt to 'mark' over the top of other dogs' scents.	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
9.2. The Handler demonstrates knowledge of toileting routine.	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
9.3. The dog responds to the 'toilet on command' request, which may include taking the dog to a discreet location for toileting purposes.	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
Notes:		

Overall Physical Health and Appearance	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
Notes: Include specific comments about the Handler's management of physical health and appearance of the dog		
Assessment Results		
Observations made: Include specific comments about temperament of dog and also the role played by the Handler to physically control the dog.		
Identified concerns		

PAT assessment result - Overview	Pass ☐	Fail ☐
Notes:		

Declaration	
Signature of Assessor	
Name of Assessor	
Signature Date	