

COLORADO ASSOCIATION OF DOG DAYCARES

GOLD STANDARD ACCREDITATION

The Colorado Association of Dog Daycares encourages its members to reach for a standard of excellence beyond the requirements for state licensure. State licensure covers facility related criteria such as construction materials, space requirements and sanitation but not behavioral evaluation of client dogs, or staff experience and training. CADD's Gold Standard Accreditation is designed to demonstrate the facility's commitment to providing the highest level of professional dog management and care.

GOLD STANDARD ACCREDITATION CRITERIA

- Behavioral assessment standards for client dogs
- Staff training protocols
- Primary Staff Trainer qualifications
- Continuing education requirements
- Annual pet first aid training

To apply for accreditation, facilities will submit proof of compliance along with a fee of \$50. Re-accreditation (same fee) will be required after two years.

BEHAVIORAL ASSESSMENT STANDARDS FOR CLIENT DOGS

We believe that the primary reason for conducting behavioral assessments is safety: for the staff and for the other dogs. In conducting such assessments, the facility will:

- Limit assessments to dogs that have been in their home for at least 2 weeks to help ensure the psychological and physical health of the dog.
- Document dog's social history through owner interview-see attached sample questionnaire.
- Provide a secure environment for the assessment.
 - There must be at least two barriers to escape (i.e. fences, doors, gates, etc.)
- Ensure that assessment is made by staff adequately trained to do so-see Staff Training Protocols below.
- Ensure gradual introduction to other dogs in the group.
- Provide formal training to their Primary Staff Trainer-see Primary Staff Trainer Qualifications below.
- Utilize a written procedure incorporating the above points.

STAFF TRAINING PROTOCOLS

All new dog handlers will be observed and coached by the Primary Staff Trainer (see following) for the period of time necessary to insure that the handler can interact safely and supervise the co-mingled group effectively. Training materials from the approved list will be utilized as the Primary Staff Trainer deems necessary for initial training and skill maintenance.

TRAINING OF STAFF THAT CONDUCTS DOG INTERVIEWS

Any staff that conducts dog interviews is required to have prior experience with hands on dog to dog interactions and to have received dog behavioral training particularly in a co-mingled or group setting. CADD has established specific guidelines in these areas.

CADD recognizes that there are lots of different ways to obtain hands on experience and dog behavioral training and has therefore established 3 ways to obtain approval of experience. The first way is to select from the lists provided by CADD of pre-approved trainers/animal behaviorists, seminars, books, videos, etc.

The second way is to get written approval from the CADD Board of Directors appointed Behavioral Standards Specialist. The Behavior Standards Specialist is the person or persons responsible for approving the tools used to obtain the experience requirements for Gold Standard Accreditation for a facility. These tools can be books, trainers, seminars, videos, etc. that are not already listed under the pre-approved items. This individual or individuals may also offer guidance to the prospective member. This position is board appointed, and must be held by persons that are Primary Staff Trainers.

The third and final way is to get approval from a majority vote of the CADD Board of Directors. Note that a majority vote by the CADD Board of Directors has final authority on approval of all and any training tools, including but not limited to, approval of what is considered working in a co-mingled dog setting, approved trainers/animal behaviorists, seminars, books and videos.

1. Any staff that conducts dog interviews must have completed 100 hours of working in a setting with at least 10-15 dogs co-mingled at a time. This includes working in a dog daycare setting, working as a trainer/animal behaviorist in a group setting, or other approved setting where 10-15 dogs are co-mingled at a time.
2. Any staff that conducts dog interviews must have 40 hours of prior dog behavioral training of which at least 20 hours need to include training focused on dogs in a co-mingled setting.
 - a. The 20 hours of training focused on dogs in a co-mingled setting can be accomplished through the following:
 - i. Working with the Primary Staff Trainer (see following) in a setting where dogs are co-mingled.
 - ii. Anything that would be approved under section 2a for the Primary Staff Trainer requirements.
 - b. The remaining 20 hours of prior dog behavioral training can be accomplished through the following:
 - i. Additional hands on training as explained above in 2a.
 - ii. Anything that would be approved under section 2b for the Primary Staff Trainer requirements.

PRIMARY STAFF TRAINER QUALIFICATIONS

The Primary Staff Trainer is required to have prior experience with hands on dog to dog interactions and to have received dog behavioral training particularly in a co-mingled or group setting. CADD has established specific guidelines in these areas.

CADD recognizes that there are lots of different ways to obtain hands on experience and dog behavioral training and has therefore established 3 ways to obtain approval of experience. The first way is to select from the lists provided by CADD of pre-approved trainers/animal behaviorists, seminars, books, videos, etc.

The second way is to get written approval from the CADD Board of Directors appointed Behavioral Standards Specialist. The Behavior Standards Specialist is the person or persons responsible for approving the tools used to obtain the experience requirements for Gold Standard Accreditation for a facility. These tools can be books, trainers, seminars, videos, etc. that are not already listed under the pre-approved items. This individual or individuals may also offer guidance to the prospective member. This position is board appointed, and must be held by persons that are Primary Staff Trainers.

The third and final way is to get approval from a majority vote of the CADD Board of Directors. Note that a majority vote by the CADD Board of Directors has final authority on approval of all and any training tools, including but not limited to, approval of what is considered working in a co-mingled dog setting, approved trainers/animal behaviorists, seminars, books and videos.

1. The Primary Staff Trainer must have completed 100 hours of working in a setting with at least 10-15 dogs co-mingled at a time. This includes working in a dog daycare setting, working as a trainer/animal behaviorist in a group setting, or other approved setting where 10-15 dogs are co-mingled at a time.
2. The Primary Staff Trainer must have 40 hours of prior dog behavioral training of which at least 20 hours need to include training focused on dogs in a co-mingled setting.
 - a. The 20 hours of training focused on dogs in a co-mingled setting can be accomplished through the following:
 - i. Working with a trainer/animal behaviorist in either a group class setting where the focus is on dogs being co-mingled or working one on one with a trainer/animal behaviorist in setting where dogs are co-mingled. CADD recommends spending time with an approved trainer/animal behaviorist at local dog parks or other places where dogs are co-mingled.
 - ii. Seminars that focus on dog to dog interactions and provide training focused on dogs in a group setting.
 - b. The remaining 20 hours of prior dog behavioral training can be accomplished through the following:
 - i. Additional training focused on dogs in a co-mingled setting as explained above in 2a.
 - ii. Completing a course with animal behavior as the core subject.
 - iii. Reading dog behavioral books.
 - iv. Watching dog behavioral videos.

- v. Attending seminars on dog behavior.
- vi. Completing Pet Care Service Association (“PCSA”) courses and/or obtaining PCSA certifications.

CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

The Primary Staff Trainer must have 40 hours of additional training every 2 years and will be required to submit proof of training every 2 years for the facility to remain certified. The 40 hours of additional training every 2 years can be obtained from anything listed under #2 above.

Any staff that conducts dog interviews must have 40 hours of additional training every 2 years and will be required to submit proof of training every 2 years for the facility to remain certified. The 40 hours of additional training every 2 years can be obtained from anything listed under #2 above.

ANNUAL PET FIRST AID TRAINING

At least one person from the facility must attend either the CADD sponsored class or another approved pet first aid class each year.

LIST OF PRE-APPROVED TRAINERS/ANIMAL BEHAVIORISTS, SEMINARS, BOOKS, AND VIDEOS AND GUIDELINES FOR OBTAINING APPROVALS FROM OTHER SOURCES

Requirement 1: 100 hours of working in a setting with at least 10-15 dogs co-mingled at a time

- Working in a dog day care facility as a group supervisor of at least 10-15 co-mingled dogs at a time. Provide letter from supervisor on time spent in this capacity. Note if you are the owner or manager and you worked at your own facility; provide documentation of time in business and average number of dogs supervised.
- Working in a co-mingled dog group of at least 10-15 dogs at an animal shelter or rescue. Provide letter from supervisor on time spent working with dogs in this capacity.
- Working as a trainer/animal behaviorist in a co-mingled dog group of at least 10-15 dogs. Provide documentation of time spent working with dogs in this capacity.

Requirement 2a: 20 hours of training focused on dogs in a co-mingled setting.

- Approved trainers include:
 - Lisa Sickles of Wag Wag Enterprises*
 - Nana Will of A Dog's Eye View*
 - Kari Bastyr of Wag and Train
 - Lori Asbury of Training With Grace
 - Ana Melara of Training With Grace
 - Carol Rosenfield through Animal Lodge
 - Terri Desnica through Hounds on the Hill
 - Please note there are many other trainers that would be approved. The easiest way to get approval is to submit the name of the trainer and company to the Behavioral Standards Specialist for approval.

* These trainers/companies offer discounts to CADD members.

- Approved local seminars include:
 - Any dog behavioral training seminar hosted by CADD
 - Beyond the Leash Seminar with Nana Will-offers 5% off to CADD members
 - Training With Grace provides dog to dog body language seminars
 - Any seminar put on by a trainer from the pre-approved list that focuses on dog body language, dog group dynamics, or other things specific to dogs and how they interact with other dogs
 - Boulder Human Society provides shaping and training seminars many of which are approved by CADD
 - Seminars provided by the Association of Pet Dog Trainers ("APDT") that focus on group dynamics
 - Please note there are many other seminars that would be approved. The easiest way to get approval is to submit seminar information to the Behavioral Standards Specialist for approval.

Requirement 2b: Additional 20 hours of dog behavioral training

- Anything that has been approved above.
- The easiest way to obtain approval for Animal Behavior Courses is to submit the course information to the Behavioral Standards Specialist. Note that time spent on the study of animal behavior in the course will generally approximate the amount of time that is approved to meet the 20 hour requirement for dog behavioral training.
- Approved Dog Behavioral books/authors include:
 - The Other End of the Leash by Patricia McConnell-counts as 4 hours
 - Culture Clash by Jean Donaldson-counts as 4 hours
 - Canine Body Language by Brenda Aloff-counts as 6 hours
 - Off-Leash Play by Robyn Bennett and Susan Briggs-counts as 8 hours
 - Genetics and the Social Behavior of Dogs by Scott & Fuller-counts as 8 hours
 - Canine Behavior: Insights and Answers by Bonnie Beaver-counts as 4 hours
 - On Talking Terms with Dogs by Turid Rugaas-counts as 3 hours
 - Dogs Behaving Badly: An A to Z Guide by Nicholas Dodman-counts as 6 hours
 - The Dog Who Loved to Much by Nicholas Dodman-counts as 3 hours
 - Dogs by Raymond and Lorna Coppinger-counts as 8 hours
 - How to Run a Dog Business by Veronica Boutelle-counts as 8 hours
 - All About Dog Daycare by Robin Bennett-counts as 8 hours
 - Bach Flower Remedies for Animals by Dr. Bach-counts as 2 hours
 - Bones would Rain from the Sky by Suzanne Clothier-counts as 4 hours
 - Calming Signals by Turgid Rugass-counts as 2 hours
 - How Animals Think and Feel by Temple Grandin-counts as 4 hours
 - Animals Make Us Human by Temple Grandin-counts as 4 hours
 - Think Dog by John Fisher-counts as 8 hours
 - How to Speak Dog by Cohren-counts as 8 hours
- Approved videos include:
 - Video on Calming Signals by Turid Rugaas-counts as 1 hour
 - Video from the sessions on play – 2008 APDT Conference-counts as 6 hours
 - The Language of Dogs by Sarah Kalnajs-counts as 4 hours
 - Canine Play and Its Relationship to Aggression by Karen London-counts as 4 hours
 - Advanced Canine Behavior Seminar by Patricia McConnell-counts as 1 hour/video or a total of 8 hours for all videos
 - Am I Safe? The Art and Science of Canine Behavior Assessments by Sarah Kalnajs-counts as 1 hour
 - Dog Play by Patricia McConnell-counts as 4 hours
- Approved local seminars include:
 - See the list under Requirements 2a above.

- Approved Pet Care Service Association (“PCSA”) courses and/or obtaining PCSA certifications
 - Gold or Silver Standard Certification for Dog Daycare by PCSA-counts as 8 hours
 - Certified Pet Care Technician-counts as 2 hours
 - Advanced Certified Pet Care Technician-counts as 2 hours
 - Certified kennel Operator-counts as 5 hours