



Service Dog Award Process

Thank you for your interest in our service dog program. Due to the overwhelming response and need in the community, we are proud to award up to two service dogs per year based on available funding. The award cycle for each service dog will be as follows:

Spring

- Applications accepted: November 1st- March 1st
- Selection process: March 1st- 30th
- Award Date- April 1st

Fall

- Applications accepted: May 1st- September 1st
- Selection process: September 1st- 30th
- Award date: October 1st

Children's Miracle Network Hospitals will contact all families that have applied for the service dog program by the award date, whether they have been selected or not. If not selected, the family's application will stay on file for further award cycles unless the family chooses otherwise.

The family that is selected will be expected to work with the training agency partnered with Children's Miracle Network Hospitals to further orientate the child with the service dog and required handlers. Children's Miracle Network Hospitals will not assist with travel for these obligations. The service dog will not be placed in the home until fully trained, which can take several months. The family and service dog may need continued training as training agency sees fit. If this training exceeds the original award amount, the family will be responsible for additional costs. Families must pay the initial service dog certification test fee, yearly certification fee, and any additional veterinary expenses.

The Service Dog is considered specialized medical equipment that Children's Miracle Network Hospitals is providing and will be treated as such. Children's Miracle Network Hospitals and the training agency will be checking up on the service dog and if at any time it is deemed the service dog is not being properly cared for, the service dog will be removed from your care.

If you have any further questions about our service dog program, please call our family assistance line at 417-347-3605.