

Guide Dog Training

Exam Information	Description
Exam number 129 Items 33 National Career Cluster Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources Certification available No, In Pilot Status	The Guide Dog Training industry certification exam focuses on Service Learning: Puppy Raising for Guide Dogs for the Blind and prepares learners for entry into a career with animals. The exam assesses hands-on experience in animal husbandry, ethology, health care, training, behavior modification, puppy development, and learning theory.

Exam Blueprint and Performance Skills

Standard	Percentage of exam score
1. Leadership Development Activities	11%
2. Work-Based Learning Activities	11%
3. Guide Dog Processes & Procedures	43%
4. Ethology In Guide Dog Training	14%
5. Methods Of Animal Husbandry	22%

*Includes performance skill evaluation

Standard 1 - Leadership Development Activities

Candidate will participate in personal and leadership development activities through SkillsUSA or another appropriate career and technical candidate organization.

Objective 1 Candidate will use communication skills to effectively communicate with others.

1. Understand when it is appropriate to listen and to speak.
2. Understand and follow verbal and written instructions for classroom and laboratory activities.

Objective 2 Candidate will effectively use teamwork to respectfully work with others.

1. Identify and understand different roles in working with a team

Objective 3 Candidate will use critical thinking and problem-solving skills

1. Analyze the cause of the problem.
2. Develop a solution to address the problem.
3. Implement the plan.
4. Evaluate the effectiveness of the plan.

Objective 4 Candidate will be dependable, reliable, steady, trustworthy and consistent in performance and behavior.

1. Set and meet goals on attendance and punctuality.
2. Prioritize, plan and manage work to complete assignments and projects on time.

Objective 5 Candidate will be accountable for results.

1. Use an achievement chart for activities and behaviors in class that encourages a personal evaluation of classroom performance.
2. File a weekly/bi-weekly written report on progress toward completion of assignments and projects.

Objective 6 Be familiar with the legal requirements and expectations of the course.

1. Be familiar with the course disclosure statement and all requirements for successful completion of the course.
2. Demonstrate workplace ethics, e.g. fair, honest, disciplined.

Standard 2 - Work-Based Learning Activities

Candidate will participate in work-based learning activities through the Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) Program.

Objective 1 Candidate will demonstrate employability skills.

1. Use a career search network to find career choices.
2. Identify appropriate CTE Pathway for selected career choice.
3. Write a resume including a list of demonstrated skills.
4. Complete a job application.

Objective 2 Candidate will participate in a work-based learning experience outside the classroom.

1. Candidate will plan and implement a Supervised Agricultural Experience Program from at least one of the following areas; ownership/entrepreneurship, placement/internship, research, school-based enterprise, and/or service-learning experiences

Objective 3 Candidate will develop a job portfolio specific to their selected work-based learning experience.

1. Candidate will keep a personal record/journal/log of their work-based learning experience; including pictures, financial records, skills learned, hours associated with project, goals, reflection, etc.

Standard 3 - Guide Dog Processes & Procedures

Candidate will understand and use Guide Dog processes and procedures.

Objective 1 Understand the history of dog training and significant people in the training industry.

1. Use the vocabulary terms used by Guide Dog trainers.
2. Learn about and use the types of equipment that is used in the dog training industry.

Objective 2 Candidates will be given hands-on opportunity to train dogs.

1. Understand Guide Dog's Rules for raising a puppy.
2. Understand and use Guide Dog's Goal Behaviors.

3. Use goal setting skills during a training session.
 - a. Set a criterion
 - b. Get the dog to achieve the goal behavior
 - c. Assess the dog's success using the goal behavior scoring; Ideal, Acceptable, Less desirable
 - d. If less desirable, problem-solve how to improve.
4. Understand and use the four Training Methods.
 - a. Operant conditioning/Clicker Training
 - b. Compulsory
 - c. Luring
 - d. Placement

Standard 4 - Ethology In Guide Dog Training

Candidate will understand and apply Ethology (science of animal behavior) in dog training.

Objective 1

1. Define Ethology (a scientific field, that studies behavior from a biological perspective)
2. Understand and use an ethogram (a computation of individual behavioral motor patterns) 5
3. Understand and apply dog ethology
4. Understand and apply the principles of Behavior modification
5. Understand and apply the eight different methods of behavior modification
6. Understand the common behavioral problems in dogs
7. Apply principles of prevention and good management, when necessary use corrections to solve behavior problems as they work with dogs

Standard 5 - Methods Of Animal Husbandry

Candidate will apply methods of animal husbandry as they care for a dog.

Objective 1 Provide the appropriate environment/management for dog care.

1. Grooming
2. Exercise
3. Nutritious diet
4. Appropriate health care, vaccinations, first aid
5. Evaluating structure
6. Enrichment and socialization

Objective 2 Understand and appropriately adapt to the stages of Dog Development.

1. Neonatal stage

2. Transitional stage
3. Socialization stage
4. Juvenile stage
5. Adolescent stage
6. Adult stage
7. Senior stage
8. Geriatric stage

Objective 3 Understand the different methods of breeding

1. Natural Breeding
2. Artificial Insemination (AI)