

Application for a RFI Released Dog

STEP ONE: Please fill out the form in full.

RFI recognizes that demand for released dogs is high and availability is limited.

Please print legibly

Contact Information:

Applicant's name: _____ DOB: _____ Gender: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Email: _____

Family and Housing

Do you live in a ___ house ___ apartment ___ condo ___ town house _____ other

If you are currently renting, please give the rules regarding animals and the landlord's name and phone number:

By providing this information, you are allowing Retrieving Freedom, Inc. to contact your landlord. Please inform them we will be doing so prior to submitting this application.

What is the approximate square footage of your residence? _____ square feet

How many bedrooms? ___ How many rooms for play or recreation? _____

Do you have a yard? ___ yes ___ no Approximate square footage: _____ square feet

Is your yard securely fenced? ___ yes ___ no If yes, what is the height of the fence? _____ feet

Please describe your household: ___ Quiet ___ Noisy ___ Active ___ Average

How many individuals live full time at your residence? _____

Name, age, and relationship to primary caregiver:

Name: _____ age ___ relationship _____

Name: _____ age ___ relationship _____

Name: _____ age ___ relationship _____

Name: _____ age ___ relationship _____

Name: _____ age ___ relationship _____

Does anyone in the family have a known allergy to dogs? _____

Is everyone in the family in agreement with the decision to adopt a dog? _____

What does your family do for recreation? _____

About your animal(s)

Have you owned a pet in the last 10 years? _____yes _____ no Type: _____

Number of years owned: _____

More than one pet in the last 10 years? Please list:

Do you currently have pets in the home?

___ yes ___ no If yes, what type? _____ How many? _____

If you currently own a dog, what is the breed _____ and age: _____

Are these pets up to date on their vaccinations? ___ yes ___ no

Are these pets spayed/neutered? ___ yes ___ no

How do you discipline your pets and why? _____

If you owned a dog but no longer do, please explain the reason you no longer own a dog:

Can you afford an average of \$150 per month (veterinary expenses, hygiene, food, etc.) to support a family dog? ___ yes ___ no

Do you agree to provide regular health care to the dog? ___ yes ___ no

Do you have a regular veterinarian? ___ yes ___ no

Veterinarian's name: _____

Clinic name: _____

Clinic phone number: _____

Clinic address: _____

By providing this information, you are allowing Retrieving Freedom, Inc. to contact your veterinary clinic. Please grant the clinic permission to release your information to Retrieving Freedom, Inc.

About the dog you wish to adopt

Desired breed: _____ Desired age: _____ Desired size: _____

Desired sex: ___ Neutered male ___ Spayed female

Willing to adopt: ___ outgoing/hyper ___ dog that needs regular medication
 ___ shy/skittish ___ dog that requires grooming
 ___ mellow/friendly ___ dog that needs training
 ___ none of these

Where will the dog spend the day? _____

Where will the dog spend the night? _____

What form of exercise will the dog get? _____

Where will you exercise the dog? _____

How often will you exercise the dog? _____

Number of hours, on average, the dog will spend alone during the day: _____

Personal References

Please list two references who are familiar with both you (and your family) and your pets:

Reference 1 Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Phone: _____

Reference 2 Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Phone: _____

By providing this information, you are allowing Retrieving Freedom, Inc. to contact your references. Please inform them we will be doing so prior to submitting this application.

RFI's main objective is to place service dogs for disabled veterans and children with autism. While all dogs in our program are initially trained with one of these placements in mind, we do identify certain dogs that are not suited for a working role in public.

Often the expectation of a handler seeking a released dog is that the dog will perform immediate miracles, and being a uniquely trained dog means the dog is fundamentally different than other dogs, a sort of "robot" dog that responds the instant you give a command; never makes a mistake; never sulks or barks, and never has an off day. Highly trained dogs are still dogs that have basic needs that must be met to be well-balanced and perform consistently. A well balanced dog is calm, friendly, and content. To a great extent a dog's mood, performance and quality of companionship depends on his/her environment, the amount of exercise, discipline and affection given by the new owner.

I understand and accept the responsibility, financial investment, and care required of owning a released dog. All family members will respect the basic needs of the dog for proper diet, shelter, veterinary care, exercise, attention, and rest. If, at any time, I, or members of the family, cannot meet the requirements of proper care, I understand the dog is to be returned to Retrieving Freedom, Inc. I further agree to follow RFI instruction regarding any required reading, training, orientation classes and the transition and integration process of the released dog into our home.

Due to the increase in cases nationwide, the demand for released dogs outweighs the supply. Not everyone that applies will be able to receive a released dog, and RFI will place dogs to the best of their ability with the applicants who show the opportunity to give the dog the best environment possible.

If at any time during the process, a RFI representative determines the family members are unsuitable to continue placement of a released dog, RFI may exercise its right as stated above to withdraw the released dog without monetary reimbursement to any party.

Every dog that has entered the RFI organization has been cared for and trained with the highest of standards. This includes the selection of high quality puppies from the breeding program, complete vet care, and foster home care and puppy classes. Some of the older dogs have participated in advanced training with the assistance of RFI's experienced professional staff. While RFI strives to produce highly qualified public access service dogs, we still incur many expenses with the dogs that are not selected to move on. RFI has intentionally not set a direct cost for adopting these dogs, as our goal is to find the best environment for them to flourish based on the specific reasons we choose to change their career. We have left this adoption cost that helps cover the money that has been invested into this dog to your discretion. We encourage you to consider the time and energy vested into this dog when making payment to RFI for the adoption. As you will be receiving goods and services from RFI in the transfer of this dog, the amount given will not be a tax deductible donation.

Primary owner signature: _____

Date: _____

STEP TWO:

Mail the printed application form to:

1152 230th Street, Waverly, IA 50677 or

3535 Thyatira Tyro Road, Senatobia, MS 38668