



Puppies  
Behind  
Bars

**Puppies Behind Bars trains prison inmates to raise service dogs for wounded war veterans and first responders, as well as explosive detection canines for law enforcement.**

The main mission of our organization is to train our dogs to become working dogs. As a result, the process involves rigorous training that is stressful in nature. If our pups do not have the confidence and fortitude needed to perform the jobs for which they are trained, we will not ask them to work. The reason we have the adoption program is because we recognize that not every dog we train has the confidence needed to become a working dog.

Puppies Behind Bars has 23 years of experience in training and placing dogs. We are confident that when a dog is released from our training program due to behavioral issues, and the stressors of the training process are eliminated, the behaviors which caused the dog to be released often lessen considerably. Once our dogs live in homes where they are not asked to perform many commands, are not asked to go into public and greet people while being on their best behavior, and are just generally allowed to be dogs, then what the adopting family receives is a dog who may bark occasionally, but who is also a loving, connected animal that is well trained and the perfect fit for a home and family environment.

We like to provide full transparency to our applicants, which means that we offer full disclosure for the reason a dog is released from our training program. We will work with you to help you make the best decision for your family and for our dog.

Thanks for coming to Puppies Behind Bars!

Released Puppy  
Application

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Puppies Behind Bars charges \$4000 for each released dog. Active volunteers will be charged \$2000 for each released dog. An active volunteer is defined as someone who has been puppy sitting our dogs for the past twelve consecutive months, fulfilling the minimum requirement of one weekend per month or, for day sitters, two outings per month. Puppies Behind Bars reserves the right to make all final decisions on released dog placement and will match our dogs' needs with the most appropriate families.

**\*Please note: The dog's name may not be changed after adoption. \***

1. Name of person filling out application: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Age \_\_\_\_\_

3. Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

4. Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

6. How did you hear of Puppies Behind Bars? (if you list friend, colleague, etc., please specify the name of the person and their connection if any, to Puppies Behind Bars)

7. Our dogs are Labrador Retrievers, which means that they are large dogs with short hair that requires regular grooming, lots of exercise and the opportunity to run several times a day. They are very tolerant dogs that love to be with people and are especially good with children. Do you think that you will be able to provide the exercise, grooming, attention and love that these dogs require?

8. When a puppy arrives at your home, both you and the pup will need a period of adjustment. During this time, the puppy is getting accustomed to you and its new home and may exhibit signs of insecurity, including not sleeping at night, whining, barking, and shyness, chewing or wanting to be left alone. How will you deal with this?

9. Do you:  Own  Rent  Apartment  House  Condominium/townhouse

10. Do you live in an urban, suburban, or rural community?

11. Do you have a fenced-in yard in which to exercise the dog? If not, is there a fenced-in area nearby where you could take the dog for exercise? Please explain.

12. Have you ever owned a dog before? If so, what became of him or her?

13. Do you currently own any other pets? If so, what kinds and are they neutered?

14. Is anyone in your household allergic to dogs?

15. Do you have any children that visit frequently? If so, please list their ages and relationship to you.

16. Describe a typical weekday in your family. How many hours per day would your dog be left alone?

17. In your home, who will be the primary caretaker of the dog?

18. Do you prefer a male or female, or does it not make a difference?

19. Do you prefer a yellow, black, or chocolate lab or does it not make a difference?

20. Do you prefer a dog that is very active, of average activity, or less active?

21. We occasionally have older dogs that are returned to us after they have been placed. Would you be willing to take a dog that is five years old or a little older?

22. For what function do you want a dog?  House pet  Agility training

Hunting  Blind child's companion  Therapy dog  Home security

Other (please explain) \_\_\_\_\_

23. Please list the names and telephone numbers of 3 references, including your vet, if you currently have one:

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

24. If you are selected to receive a Puppies Behind Bars puppy, you would be required to pay the fee described on page one to Puppies Behind Bars. \* Does this requirement present a problem for you?

25. If you are selected to receive a puppy, would you be able to come to New York City to pick it up? We will not fly a puppy to your destination. Puppies Behind Bars cannot pay for the dog's transportation.
26. Is there anything else we should know about you or your family so that we can appropriately match a dog with your needs/wants?
27. If we have further questions, may we call to discuss them with you? If so, what is the best time of day to reach you and at what telephone number?

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Please return completed application online or mail to our office at:

**Puppies Behind Bars**  
**263 West 38<sup>th</sup> Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**New York, NY 10018**  
[jennifer@puppiesbehindbars.com](mailto:jennifer@puppiesbehindbars.com)

**\* Every new owner will be required to sign a form saying that you will never sell or give away the dog but will return it to Puppies Behind Bars should your circumstances change, and you are unable to properly keep the dog. If you do return the dog due to the above-mentioned, Puppies Behind Bars will reimburse the purchase price of the dog. You will also be asked to submit a form annually telling us how the dog is doing.**