



LA CONFEDERATION NATIONALE DES ORGANISATIONS DE CHIENS D'AIDE A LA PERSONNE



FRENCH RULES AND REGULATIONS ON ASSISTANCE AND GUIDE DOGS

The law for accessibility in France requires two documents: a State card that testifies that you have a handicap (carte mobilité inclusion) and a card which is a certificate that the dog received proper assistance dog education.

There is currently no legal recognition of foreign teams since the law only specifies documents issued from French institutions.

In order to have a State card, one must address a "Maison des Personnes Handicapées" in order to file an application. It requires to visit a medical doctor who will establish a certificate of your disability to be part of your application. The application is then evaluated by a multidisciplinary team (which includes a medical doctor). This team will decide whether or not the accessibility card is granted to the person.

Law No. 2005-102 of February 11, 2005 on Equal Rights and Opportunities, Participation and Citizenship of Persons with Disabilities (1)

This law includes accessibility issues and when it comes to guide and assistance dogs refers to the following articles in this document.

Law No. 87-588 of July 30, 1987 on Various Measures of a Social Nature - Article 88 Modified by Law n ° 2016-1321 of October 7th, 2016 - art. 107 (V)

Access to transport, to places open to the public, as well as to those allowing a professional, educational or educational activity, is allowed to guide or guide dogs accompanying persons holding the "mobility inclusion" card bearing the "Invalidity" and "priority" mentioned in Article L. 241-3 of the Code of Social Action and Families or the person responsible for their education throughout their training period.

The presence of the guide dog or helper alongside the disabled person must not result in additional billing in the access to services and benefits to which it can claim.

This article is applicable to Mayotte.

Code for rural and maritime activities - Article L211-30

Dogs accompanying persons with disabilities, regardless of the type of disability, motor, sensory or mental, and whose owners justify the education of the animal are exempted from the wearing of muzzle in transport, public places premises open to the public as well as those allowing a professional, formative or educational activity.



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Code of social action and families

Article R241-23 Modified by Decree No. 2016-1849 of December 23, 2016 - art. 1

Prohibition of public places open to guide dogs and service dogs mentioned in paragraph 5 of Article L. 245-3, accompanying persons holding the mobility inclusion card, including the following information: "invalidity "Or" priority for disabled persons "mentioned in Article L. 241-3, the invalidity card referred to in Article L. 241-3 and the priority card mentioned in Article L. 241- 3-1 in their wording prior to January 1, 2017, is punishable by the fine for third-class contraventions.

Compensation service: financial animal aid

Social Action and Families Code - article L245-3 amended by Law No. 2005-102 of February 11, 2005 - art. 12 JORF February 12, 2005.

"The compensation service may be allocated, under conditions defined by decree, to charges: 5 ° Related to the allocation and maintenance of animal helpers. As of January 1, 2006, charges corresponding to a guide dog for the blind or an assistance dog are only taken into account in the calculation of the service if the dog has been educated in a certified structure and by educators. qualified according to conditions defined by decree. Dogs handed over to disabled people before this date are presumed to meet these conditions."

Puppy raisers and dogs in training

On September 27, Ordinance No. 2014-1090 of September 26, 2014 appeared in the Official Journal, which in Article 10 supplements Article 88 of the Law of July 31, 1987. This article is now worded as follows:

"Art. 88. - Access to transport, to places open to the public, as well as to those allowing a professional, training or educational activity is authorized for guide dogs or assistance dogs accompanying persons holding a disability card. provided for in Article L. 241-3 of the Social Action and Families Code or the priority card for disabled persons provided for in Article L. 241-3-1 of the same code or the person responsible for their education throughout their training period. " The presence of the blind guide or assistance dog alongside the disabled person must not result in additional billing in access to the services and benefits to which the latter is entitled. " It is therefore now established that the dog in education or being trained will be able to access all public places in the company of either the person responsible for his education or his master regardless of the card he holds (disability or priority).



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Labeling of dog training centers (Decree mentioned in the compensation aid)

In order to be able to guarantee that the dogs given to people with disabilities correspond to what is expected of them, the centers which educate and deliver guide dogs and assistance dogs must meet a certain number of criteria to obtain the label by the prefectures. For the sake of brevity, the modalities relating to the physical installations, as well as the details of the criteria, will not be presented. First, the centers must have a procedure for studying all the requests, with in particular a multidisciplinary commission which decides the attribution of the dog or justifies the refusal if it occurs. The fact that the decision is collegial, and not that of a single individual, and multidisciplinary is essential for the objectivity of the decision.

With regard to dogs, the decrees relating to labeling list the expected physical and behavioral criteria: this principle aims to eliminate those who would be unfit for these activities. In addition, it is required to have among the employees two dog trainers holding professional certification of guide dog or assistance dog trainer (level V and IV). These instructors must pass a certificate of aptitude for guiding or assistance to the dog before it is issued. These guide or assistance dog trainer certifications should not be confused with the BP dog trainer (another certificate). Training in the guide or assistance dog specialization is distinctly different from canine BP, which includes content to which specific lessons are added. They last between 3 and 4 years depending on the specialty of dog training. Professionals holding these level V and IV certifications are the only experts in the ability to assess the dog's work with regard to the situation of the disabled person.

Any matching of dogs must be accompanied by a total of two weeks of dog handling training for the beneficiary, so that the person knows "how to work" with him. Once the matching has been done, the center must be available in the event of a problem: this takes the form of an on-call service in the evenings and weekends in addition to the daytime hotlines. The center guarantees an annual follow-up of the team (the handler - dog couple). In addition to the fact that it makes it possible to check that all is going well and to correct small problems, this monitoring makes it possible to decide on the moment of the dog's retirement (permanent cessation of work) and to think with the master on the best solution for the dog at that time.

Professionals certificates

Assistance dogs instructor: professional certification of level IV trainer registered with the RNCP (National Directory of Professional Certifications) code 31536

Guide dog instructor: professional certification of level III trainer registered in the RNCP (National Directory of Professional Certifications) code 1609