



**PAWS  
OF  
CNY**

**PET CERTIFICATION  
SUMMARY OF INITIAL EVALUATION ITEMS  
Dogs**

The following tests must be passed without the use of treats, harsh corrections and without the dog displaying any of the following: growling, raising lips in a snarl, biting, attempts to drag handler away from or towards evaluator or test dog, excessive urination, excessive whining, excessive barking, avoidance of evaluator (can include flattened ears, crouching, backing up, submissive belly roll) and jumping on the evaluator or evaluation staff.

**SECTION A – TEMPERAMENT & APPEARANCE**

**1. INTEREST IN INTERACTION**

Evaluator will approach handler and dog for an introduction and to prepare handler for the test. Evaluator will invite the dog to approach for a greeting. The dog must approach the evaluator without force or coercion.

**2. EXAMINATION/PETTING/HUGGING**

Dog will be examined and handled by the evaluator as described below. The dog may sit, lie down or stand while the evaluator approaches and does the following:

- Pat on top of head
- Gentle examination by hand of ears and mouth
- Gently lift of one front paw and then one back paw
- Pet the body with light tugging of fur/hair
- Gently grasp the tail
- Hugging

**3. APPEARANCE**

The dog must not have any of the following conditions:

- Long nails
- Dirty or foul smelling coat
- Open sores
- Discharge

#### **4. APPROACH VARIATION**

Dog sits or stands beside handler while the evaluator moves towards them as described below. The evaluator will stop 2-3 feet before reaching the dog and will not interact with the dog unless the dog solicits a greeting.

- Approaches at a fast pace
- Approaches with an unsteady gait
- Approaches from behind
- Approaches slowly while making eye contact with the dog
- Approaches wearing a hat
- Approaches speaking loudly while stomping and reaching towards the dog

#### **5. MEDICAL ARTICLES**

Dog will be presented with 3 medical apparatus items; crutches, walker and wheelchair. Evaluator will use each apparatus, moving past the dog. The handler will then be asked to approach the evaluator in each apparatus and position the dog for petting. For small dogs, handlers will be required to either place pet on a towel in evaluator's lap while evaluator sits in the wheelchair, or handler will hold the small dog in their arms, close enough for evaluator to reach for petting.

#### **6. COMFORT IN A CROWD**

Three people will approach the dog at the same time and pet the dog from different angles.

#### **7. REACTION TO ANOTHER DOG**

Handler will walk with dog towards another certified dog and handler (test team). Both dogs must stay on the left side of their handler's body, making no contact with each other. Handlers will stop, shake hands and continue walking. Dog and handler will then stop and hold position while the test team approaches from the front and walks in a circle around them maintaining a distance of 3 - 4 feet. The dog must remain under the handler's control. Barking, if any, must be brought under control within 3 barks or it will be considered excessive.

## **SECTION B – HANDLER SKILLS**

### **8. BASIC COMMANDS**

The dog must be able to do the following:

- Sit - Dog must sit on command
- Stay & Recall - Dog is put into a stay on a 4 to 6-foot leash then handler walks to the end of the leash and calls the dog.

### **9. LOOSE LEASH WALKING**

The handler will walk the dog on a 4' or 6' leash around the room along a path directed by the evaluator. The path shall include two turns and a stop at the end. The dog must walk on a loose leash without pulling in any direction or failure to walk.

### **10. LEAVE IT**

Dog is placed in a sit or down stay. A food treat is placed two feet from the dog. The dog must be able to “leave it” the treat command. The evaluator will then pick the treat up and replace it further away on the ground while the dog is watching. The handler must then walk the dog past the treat, no further than 2 feet away from the treat and the dog must “leave it”.

### **11. TAKE IT**

Dog is offered a food treat and must be able to “take it” gently without excessive mouthing or contact with the evaluator’s hand.