



Qualifications for Dogs and Handlers to Participate in PIT PAWS are as follows:

- Ability to serve in the busy airport environment as well as complete the mandatory training sessions and requirements.
- The team (handler and dog) can demonstrate ability to work well with people and be willing to assist others.
- Dog must be clean and well groomed.
- The team needs to possess good communication skills, be reliable, be committed and be physically able to perform the duties of the job.

Requirements for Dogs and Handlers to Participate in PIT PAWS are as follows:

- All PIT PAWS volunteer dogs must be registered by an approved organization such as the [Alliance of Therapy Dogs](#) or [Therapy Dog International](#) - national organizations that register, insure, and support members who are involved in volunteer animal-assisted activities.
- Proof of most current and up to date vaccinations for your dog
- As part of the onboarding process, dog handlers must attend a PIT PAWS Customer Service course where they learn about Pittsburgh International Airport and how to assist passengers.
- Handlers must complete a background check, take a test and obtain an airport ID badge.
- Airport staff conducts a walking interview with the dog to confirm the dog's ability to handle the airport environment.
- Ability to maintain and perform the minimum number of volunteer service shifts required.