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VIDEO INTERVIEW

We prefer to conduct in-home interviews to help us determine your eligibility for our program. However, if you live some distance from the school we ask that you submit a video. The video should consist of a demonstration of your orientation and mobility skills, using a cane independently, as well as answering the questions listed below. Please limit the time to twenty minutes.

- Your gait and what speed you travel. Please note any balance problems or neuropathy. If you still have a guide dog that you are planning to retire, you may include some work with your present guide.
- Video of you walking in your home area and in business or shopping areas that you may be working your dog.
- Please show what requirements a dog would have to work under. For example, are there sidewalks; what type of traffic signal controls will you work; are there many loose or stray dogs and cats in your neighborhood; how busy are the streets; what type of environment surrounds your place of work.
- Be sure you include crossing different kinds of intersections that you might encounter. Show your ability to read traffic and cross streets independently.

You will need someone to interview you to answer the following questions and your answers need to be recorded on the video.

1. What is your cause of blindness and what is your estimated degree of sight? Please be as specific as possible. Please describe your residual vision in different lighting, i.e. nighttime or bright lights.

2. Have you ever had a guide dog or attended a guide dog school? If so, what school?

3. Why do you desire a guide dog?

4. Do you have any physical limitations?

5. Are you on any medications? Insulin?

6. We do not have a nurse on staff. Are you able to administer your own medications/Insulin?

7. Do you smoke? We do not allow smoking in the dorm. Smoking is permitted outside and in the designated area only.

8. Please describe your home conditions. (i.e. house, mobile home, apartment)

9. Who else lives in your home?

10. What are their feelings about you having a guide dog?

11. Are there any other pets?

12. Where do you intend to relieve your dog?

13. Describe the types of areas where your dog will be working? Be sure to include any unusual areas that you frequent such as bowling alleys.

14. Are you employed? If so, what is your employer's attitude toward your having a guide dog at the work place?

15. Guide Dogs of the Desert uses Labrador Retrievers, Golden Retrievers, Lab/Golden crosses, Standard Poodles, and Labradoodles (Lab/Poodle crosses).

Do you have a breed preference?

If so, why?

Are you open to the other breeds?

16. Both the males and females are neutered and make equally good guides.

Do you have a gender preference or are you open to either gender?

Please explain your reasons if you have a gender preference.

17. Describe your idea of the perfect guide dog for you.

18. What personality do you think will fit you best? Why?

Should you require assistance with your video, please contact us. Often your local high school, college or Lions Club organization can offer assistance as well.

If you have any questions regarding the video requirements, please do not hesitate to contact us at (760) 329-1282 or (760) 329-6257. Thank you for your interest in Guide Dogs of the Desert.