

Autism Assistance Dogs Ireland are expanding their Assistance Dog Programme and are recruiting a Qualified Autism Assistance Dog Instructor to join the team.

This is a permanent full time position, 38 hours a week, salary negotiable dependent on experience, starting at €35,000.

We are looking for a qualified Assistance Dog Instructor with at least one years relevant experience. Experience working with 'autism' assistance dogs is not a requirement but would be an advantage. Training will be given for someone in a respective assistance dog field with experience obtained working for an accredited 'Assistance Dogs International' organisation.

This role is central to the delivery of our assistance dog service and as a national charity you will be involved in training the dogs and clients throughout Ireland.

The role involves:

- The training of suitable dogs as assistance dogs for children with autism, this includes assessment of the dog in all environments and preparing the dog to be attached to the child with autism.
- The training of the dogs from our Puppy Programme at 15 months old. They will go through up to 19 weeks training and this will include teaching the dogs tasks and ensuring they reach a high standard in all areas including stopping at kerbs, attachment work, free running, social behaviour and obedience. For more info on our training program visit <https://www.autismassistancedogsireland.ie/our-training-program>)
- Assessment of families, the family is assessed for suitability and type of dog that would suit their needs, this takes place in their home environment.
- Matching visits, a dog close to the end of its training is matched to a suitable child and family that have been assessed.
- Class training – training of clients with their dogs – this takes place over 5 days and covers all the training and welfare of the dog building the confidence of the family before they take the dog home
- Post class aftercare – this includes the attachments with the dog and child and routine aftercare for all assistance dogs, these take place in the family home/environment, after the initial aftercare each family receive a yearly visit, this is to make sure the dog and child unit are still working well together and to check on the dogs welfare

- The training and placement of assistance dogs is done on a four or five month rolling system with the ability for you to place up to 8 to 10 fully qualified assistance dogs per year.

AADI has the best interest of its clients and is committed to developing long term relationships that make a positive difference in the lives of children with autism.

This position is based in Cork, but travel and overnights will be required when working with clients on aftercare and for home assessments.

Must have a full clean driving licence.

Autism Assistance Dogs Ireland is accredited to Assistance Dogs International. We are a growing organisation focused on training and placing autism assistance dogs with children who have autism. You can find wealth of information about AADI, its training program and current staff team on our website www.aadi.ie

Closing date for applications: Wednesday 12th August 2020.

Please submit your cover letter and CV to nuala@aadi.ie

For more information on this role please contact Nuala on nuala@aadi.ie

Autism Assistance Dogs Ireland is an Equal Opportunities Employer