



Area Agency on Aging for North Florida, Inc.

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**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM COMFORT REGARDING
YOUR PET PARTNERS EVALUATION**

PLEASE BRING THE COMPLETED DELTA SOCIETY PAPERWORK TO YOUR EVALUATION. PLEASE MAKE SURE IT'S 100% COMPLETE BEFORE SUBMITTAL. ALSO NOTE, DELTA SOCIETY **HAS VERY SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS** AS TO EXACTLY WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING TO THE EVALUATION. FAILURE TO HAVE THE REQUIRED EQUIPMENT, AS STATED BELOW, WILL MEAN THAT YOU WILL BE UNABLE TO BE EVALUATED AT THIS TIME.

ACCEPTABLE EQUIPMENT IS:

- Buckle, snap and quick-release closures
- Limited slip collars (Martingales), if they do not include metal links
- Halter/head collars
- Leashes, no more than 6 feet in length, that are all-leather or all-fabric
- Body harnesses
- Front clip harnesses such as: the Freedom/Sense-ation/Sense-ible harnesses
- Metal hardware, such as buckles, slip rings and D-rings is acceptable
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UNACCEPTABLE EQUIPMENT IS:

- Special training collars such as prong, electric or spray collars
- Metal collars and harnesses, including Martingales, with metal links
- Full slip collars of any type
- Leashes with any amount of metal chain
- Retractable leashes
- Leashes longer than 6 feet in length
- No-pull harnesses
- Muzzles

**A note on harnesses:body harnesses and front clip harnesses are acceptable equipment. Front clip harnesses that are acceptable include: the Freedom harness, the Softouch Sense-ation and Sense-ible harnesses. At this time, the gentle leader wasy walk harness has not been approved by Delta Society as an acceptable piece of equipment. The gentle leader easy walk harness, along with other types of equipment, will be reviewed, assessed and piloted by Delta's Team Evaluator Committee.

PROCEDURES: You and your pet will be observed going through a series of exercises that simulate some possible situations you might encounter while visiting. Your pet should have basic obedience skills. The combination of how well you and your pet interact with people and how well you work together as a team is taken into consideration.

HELPFUL HINTS:

- You should be dressed as if you were going on a visit.
- Your pet should be groomed as if it were going on a visit.
- Both you and your pet must be healthy the day of the evaluation.
- The evaluation simulates a visit. Role-play with the evaluators as if they were residents/clients at the facility.
- Please talk to and encourage your pet throughout the test.
- Instructions will be given before we begin each exercise. Feel free to ask questions if you don't understand what's expected.
- Cats can be carried throughout the evaluation or walked on a leash at the handler's discretion.
- Very small dogs can be carried through most but not all of the evaluation.
- How you present your cat or very small dog (carried, in a basket, on a leash, etc.) during the evaluation is how you must present your animal when visiting.
- **You will be expected to provide proof of rabies vaccination.**
- **You will be expected to bring a brush or comb, a towel or blanket (if your pet will be carried) and a treat if your pet has special dietary needs.**
- During the evaluation, you will encounter a neutral dog. Be assured that this dog has been thoroughly screened to be people and animal friendly.
- The evaluation will be stopped if we see signs of aggression or extreme fear in your pet or if we see inappropriate conduct on the part of the handler.
- Try to relax, your pet can tell when you're nervous.

YOUR PET NEEDS TO:

- Stay politely by your side while you talk to a friendly stranger who will pet him.
- Walk with you on a loose lead through a crowd of people.
- Not be overly startled by medical equipment or loud noises.
- Sit, down, stay, and come when called.
- Stay politely by your side when you meet an unknown dog and handler.
- Allow the evaluator to examine his/her whole body, including the teeth.
- Not be overly stressed by being petted exuberantly or clumsily.
- Not be overly stressed by people who stagger and speak strangely or by people yelling.
- Enjoy interacting with a crowd of several people.
- Leave a toy alone when asked by the handler.
- Take a treat nicely.