



## Dog Volunteer Position Description

*AHS dog volunteers are called BRATTs, which stands for Behavior Re-Homing Assessment Training Team*

### About the Austin Humane Society:

The Austin Humane Society (AHS) offers comprehensive, humane, life-saving animal services, transforming the lives of animals and those who love them. Because we believe homeless animals deserve a chance to thrive in a loving environment, we offer innovative, nationally recognized programs that save the lives of thousands of dogs and cats each year. AHS' approach to addressing animal homelessness encompasses both finding animals homes through adoption as well as preventing future homelessness through spay/neuter programs.

### Summary of Position:

BRATT volunteers work with our dogs to keep them happy, healthy and well-socialized during their stay at AHS and help them get adopted into loving forever homes.

**Location of Role:** Austin Humane Society, 124 W. Anderson Lane, Austin, TX 78752

### Time Commitment:

- Volunteers are required to make a **three-month commitment of two hours per week**.
- AHS is open for volunteering Monday-Saturday 8am-7pm and Sunday 8am-5pm. BRATT volunteers typically sign up for a weekly shift, which are Monday-Saturday 8-11am, 11am-2pm, 2-5pm, 5-7pm, and Sunday 8-11am, 11am-2pm, 2-5pm.

### Qualifications:

- At least 14 years of age. *14 & 15 year olds must be accompanied by a parent or guardian at all times when volunteering. 16 & 17 year olds may volunteer independently with parental consent.*
- Able to fulfill all responsibilities independently.
- Physically able to handle big, strong, exuberant dogs.
- Enjoys the company of dogs.
- Committed to the mission & values of the Austin Humane Society.

### Benefits:

- Make a difference for homeless animals in your community!
- Help dogs get adopted into loving forever homes.
- Meet an amazing team of people who share your love for dogs.
- Increase your knowledge of dog behavior and dog handling skills.

### Responsibilities:

- Complete the volunteer application process, which includes completing an application online, attending an orientation session (offered twice a month), paying an application fee, and attending program-specific training sessions. **This process can take from two weeks to two months.**
- Sign up for volunteer opportunities and log hours online.
- Take dogs to the dog runs and/or field for short walks to provide an opportunity to relieve themselves, exercise and socialize with people.
- Socialize dogs in the volunteer lounge, auditorium, and/or visitation rooms, which includes brushing, petting and interacting with dogs individually and providing them with time outside of their kennel.
- Pick up any feces deposited inside or outside shelter.
- Assist potential adopters as needed
- Interact with dogs following the techniques and procedures outlined in trainings
- Adhere to AHS procedures and protocols related to animal handling, disease control, cleanliness, etc.
- Communicate professionally and respectfully at all times with the general public, staff, and volunteers.

### Contact:

To apply, visit our website at <http://www.austinhumanesociety.org/volunteer/orientation>

For more information, contact our Volunteer Coordinator at [volunteercoordinator@austinhumanesociety.org](mailto:volunteercoordinator@austinhumanesociety.org) or 512-646-PETS