

ALLIANCE OF THERAPY DOGS CODE OF ETHICS

Alliance of Therapy Dogs is committed to a code of ethics that will guide the performance, conduct and behavior of its employees, Board of Directors, and members (Tester/Observers, Handlers, and Supporting Members).

1. I will maintain high standards of honesty, integrity, and impartiality, free from personal considerations, favoritism, or partisan demands.
2. I will uphold my volunteer duties to the highest standards and not use them to benefit my position, education, or professional title(s).
3. I will be courteous and considerate when dealing with the public, in person, electronically, and on social media, realizing that I serve the public.
4. I will read and adhere to the ATD rules and procedures as published annually in the ATD Member Handbook, not only while visiting, but also when posting on social media.
5. I will visit without discrimination against any person, facility, facility employee, or any member of the public regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, disability, or national origin.
6. I will be firm, fair, and consistent in the performance of my volunteer duties and shall treat others with dignity, respect, and compassion, void of all retribution, harassment, or abuse.
7. I will maintain mutual respect and professional cooperation with other ATD members, Board of Directors and ATD employees.
8. I will act cordially and professionally toward other certified therapy dog teams regardless of registry.
9. I will conduct myself in a manner that will not bring discredit or embarrassment to the Alliance of Therapy Dogs when performing my volunteer duties.
10. I will seek assistance from the ATD office or ATD Board President if I have questions or concerns about any volunteer guidelines, rules, and/or procedures, including the Code of Ethics, without fear of retribution or retaliation.
11. I will use my certified therapy dog for their intended purpose when volunteering, never misrepresenting them as a service dog.
12. I will volunteer for the benefit of those I visit without expectation or solicitation of any financial reward for these efforts.