



Canine Animal Care

Purpose: Volunteers work closely with staff to ensure that our dogs and puppies receive the highest standard of care and assist with essential daily tasks to provide care and comfort for our animals to ensure happy and healthy residents. The care our volunteers provide during this shift is the most important role to help our animals get adopted. Potential adopters make a connection with animals when they're clean, comfy, and cozy in their kennels!

Location: Oakland Adoption Center located at 8323 Baldwin Street. Parking is available on-site.

Key Responsibilities:

- Prepare food, deliver meals, and provide fresh water for our dogs and puppies.
- Clean and sanitize kennels and habitats, **including picking up and disposing of animal waste.**
- Under the direction of staff, slip lead dogs out of kennels to take them on potty breaks.
- Provide and set-up clean bedding.
- Wash food and water bowls.
- Participate in the general upkeep of our adoption and holding areas, including laundry, sweeping, and mopping.

Time Commitment:

- A two-hour weekly shift: shifts are available from 8:40 AM – 10:40 AM or 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM Monday – Sunday.
- We ask each volunteer to make a six-month minimum commitment, but we hope you stay longer!

Training & Support:

- Complete the East Bay SPCA's New Volunteer Info Session and Volunteer Orientation.
- One-on-one training is provided by shelter staff during your first shift.
- During the animal care shift you will become familiar with working in a shelter environment and learn our safety and disease prevention protocols.
- All Canine Animal Care volunteers are eligible for additional volunteer opportunities if they maintain their regular schedule and complete the corresponding training. Most volunteers are interested in canine companionship and enrichment (CCE), which is learning different activities and methods to provide mental and physical enrichment to our shelter dogs and puppies! Volunteers will have the option to attend a CCE training after completing 20 hours of animal care (about 2-4 months after beginning to volunteer).
- The Volunteer Services Manager is available for questions and assistance.

Requirements & Qualifications:

- Commit to a regular weekly shift.
- Volunteers ages 18+ may volunteer on their own.
- Young adults ages 16 or 17 may volunteer on their own after signed permission by their parent or guardian.
- Children 10-15 years old may volunteer with a trained parent or guardian. Volunteers ages 10-15 **may not** handle the dogs' leashes.
- **The Canine Animal Care role is a physical shift.** It involves cleaning, light lifting, and bending. Please note in your application if you are unable to perform these duties and we will explore alternative options with you.
- Ability to bend, squat, reach and respond with manual dexterity in case of a loose animal.
- Ability to self-select and not work with an animal if their physicality or behavior is beyond your control or skill level.
- Computer, email, and internet access. You will have access to an online account to manage your schedule. We also communicate shelter schedule changes, training opportunities, and policy updates through email.
- Wear a volunteer apron or t-shirt and nametag during your shift. Aprons and t-shirts are \$15 each.