



Training Class Assistant

Purpose: East Bay SPCA is committed to providing the most up to date, scientifically supported training methods available, taught by trainers whose credentials demonstrate their understanding of dog behavior and commitment to ethical training techniques.

The Training Class Assistant (TCA) role is designed to not only offer our volunteers a chance to practice their skills in a classroom setting but offer up-and-coming trainers a chance to accrue hours for credentials in a dynamic hands-on environment while learning practical training curricula. This role is ideal for training enthusiasts looking to explore training as a career OR individuals gathering hours for a training certification (ex. CPDT-KA or similar).

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

Requirements & Qualifications:

- Basic knowledge and hands-on experience with clicker training; comfortable with both capturing and targeting OR:
- Has taken at least one group training class or private training session with East Bay SPCA
- At least 16 years old, if under 18 years old must have written consent of parent or guardian

Time Commitment:

- Each class is 6 weeks in length. We ask our TCAs to commit to a two-hour weekly shift for 6 consecutive weeks, which is a full class term.
- Classes are currently offered on weekends or weekday evenings.

Key Responsibilities:

- Help with setup/breakdown/sanitation/equipment prep
- Assist with training exercises during classes

Volunteer Expectations:

Volunteers are expected to be on time for shifts. Volunteers are expected to be courteous and polite to our clients. We hope our TCAs will be ambassadors for our brand and help to convey the enthusiasm we have for helping our clients better understand and communicate with their dogs. If a TCA is not sure how to answer a client question, they will refer the client to their trainer mentor. If a TCA ever has a question about techniques, methodologies, how to approach clients on certain topics, or how to address specific behaviors, we encourage them to speak with their trainer or a member of the Behavior and Training Staff directly.

What if I want more training or experience before applying?:

- Check out our Clicker Training 101 webinar
- Consider taking a group or private training class with East Bay SPCA
- Check out our "LAT," "Nose Targeting," "Clicker Basics," and "Decompress for Success" handouts on the website
- Email training@eastbayspca.org for more specific resources!