

Choosing the Right Dogs For Adoption Ambassadors

Most dogs do well in the program, so when starting out consider:

Gregarious dogs – People love a dog who will approach them on the street!

Odd-looking dogs – Dogs with different color eyes, blue merle coloring, three legs, etc. (anything that grabs attention!)

Common shelter dogs – Ordinary brown dogs who may go overlooked in the shelter may be snapped up when they're out and about because their beauty and uniqueness is more visible!

Dogs without major behavioral issues – For example, leash reactivity may be very hard for Adoption Ambassadors to handle.

Once your program has been running for a while, consider adding:

Shy dogs – With experienced Ambassadors, shy dogs can come out of their shells quickly.

Higher energy dogs – Running club members and other active community groups may be tapped to foster super-energetic dogs.

Dogs to avoid placing in the Adoption Ambassadors program include:

Dogs who can't be in public – For example, avoid dogs undergoing heartworm treatment, young puppies or dogs who are medically contagious.

Dogs with behavioral issues – Don't place a dog into the program you wouldn't place with a distracted college student.

Dogs with restrictions – People fall in love on sight, so don't place dogs in the program who need a rare adopter! For example, avoid using dogs who can't be adopted to families with kids or can't be around other dogs.