

## Public Overview

### Purpose

The Gluten/Allergen Detection Service Dog must be able to demonstrate the ability to discriminate the target odor in a variety of controlled and real-life scenarios. There are five evaluation components to earn the O.D.O.R. Gluten/Allergen Detection Title (OGAD):

- Behavior and Well-Being (Pass/Fail Scoring),
- Controlled Search™ Exercise;
- Packaged Items Exercise;
- Mealtime Exercise; and
- Independent Work Exercise.

This title requires that either the Packaged Item Exercise or the Mealtime Exercise be performed in public to demonstrate the dog can perform its tasks in public with the distractions those conditions provide. If the team passes the evaluation, they will earn the O.D.O.R. Service Dogs Inc. Gluten/Allergen Detection Title. This is the title we recommend for most Service Dogs or Service Dogs-in-training.

All exercises in this Evaluation will be documented by video according to our Video Submission Guidelines document.

Requests for accommodation due to disability must be done prior to the evaluation and require approval by the Evaluator and the ODOR Service Dogs Inc. Board.

### OGAD-Home Option

If the team will only be working the dog at home and does not intend to pursue public working status, they should consider an alternate title: O.D.O.R. Service Dogs Inc. Gluten/Allergen Detection Title-Home (OGADH). To earn this title, they must complete all the required exercises of the OGAD but all exercises must be performed in the home. Please communicate your intention to pursue the OGADH clearly to your Evaluator.

Dogs that earn the OGADH have the option to complete the Mealtime Exercise or the Packaged Item Exercise in public and submit it for evaluation within 6 months of earning the OGAD-H title. If they pass that exercise, their title will be converted to the OGAD. The date of title earned will remain the date of the first title earned.

Note for Evaluators: Separate scoring sheets are used for each title.

## OGAD and OGADH Options for Multiple Odor Indications (OGAD2 and OGADH2)

If a dog has been trained on multiple allergens and/or gluten and has multiple trained indication behaviors, the team may qualify for the OGAD2 or OGADH2 Title. The dog must have a different trained indication behavior for the presence of at least two target odors and at least one trained indication behavior for the absence of any target odor. (One trained indication behavior for a cocktail of similar allergens is considered one trained indication behavior for a single “cocktailed” target odor.) To demonstrate proficiency in detecting each target odor, the team will submit an additional OGAD or OGADH evaluation for each target odor or cocktail of odors that has its own trained indication behavior (alert) following the procedures laid out in this guidebook. Each target odor/cocktail of odors along with each distinct trained indicated behavior must be evaluated individually. A third successful evaluation of an additional target odor/cocktail of odors and trained indication behavior the dog would qualify the dog for the OGAD3 and OGADH3 titles.

### Prerequisites

When performing the OGAD evaluation exercises in public areas where only Service Dogs are allowed, the team must submit the following prior to being eligible for evaluation:

- An O.D.O.R. Service Dogs Inc. Veterinary Clearance Form filled out by a veterinarian, including proof of vaccination or titers required in the handler’s local area; and
- Proof of training that the dog is suitable to work in areas where only Service Dogs are allowed. Any of the following will be accepted:
  - OPPT (O.D.O.R Service Dogs Inc. Pre Public Access Title);
  - UKC Socialized Pet Obedience Test (SPOT);
  - PDA Level 2 (Pet Dog Ambassador, available through Pet Professional Guild, must be current);
  - AKC CGC (Canine Good Citizen);
  - Advanced versions of the above listed manners or obedience titles; or
  - Similar manners or obedience evaluations not listed above may be accepted at the discretion of the Evaluator.

### Preparation of Odor Sources for the OGAD

Pure source gluten and/or allergens, prepared according to O.D.O.R. Service Dogs Inc. Scent Preparation Guidelines, must be used. Three (3) levels of odor concentration must be prepared for use in evaluation. These concentrations will be referenced through all the different exercises.

- The **large odor source concentration** must be fifteen (15) g (≈1 tablespoon) of pure raw gluten or three (3) ml of 100% strength liquid allergen odor placed on a sterile gauze pad.
- The **medium odor source concentration** must be five (5) g (≈1 teaspoon) of pure raw gluten or one (1) ml of 100% strength liquid allergen odor placed on a sterile gauze pad.



- The **trace odor source concentration** must be made as follows:
  - A fifteen (15) g ball of pure, raw gluten must be placed on top of a piece of parchment (baking) paper for a minimum of one (1) minute and a maximum of two (2) minutes, then removed. The odor source must be the parchment paper; or
  - One drop (0.1 ml) of 100% strength liquid allergen odor placed on a sterile gauze pad.

## Independent Work Exercise

The Independent Work Exercise is chosen by the handler from one (1) of the following three (3) options: Room Search Exercise, Containers Search Exercise, or Controlled Search™ Exercise with Handler Bias Removal. The purpose of this exercise is to verify that the Gluten/Allergen Detection Dog is able to work independently from the handler, to minimize handler bias and the possibility of the handler inadvertently cueing the dog. The handler must select ONE (1) of the three (3) options:

- Room Search Exercise;
- Containers Search Exercise; or
- Controlled Search™ Exercise with Handler Bias Removal.

Specific guidelines and requirements for the Room Search Exercise and Containers Search Exercise are located in the Room Search Exercise and Containers Search Exercise sections of this document.

If a handler selects the Controlled Search™ Exercise with Handler Bias Removal option, that exercise will REPLACE the Controlled Search™ Exercise. This means the team will only need to complete three (3) exercises.

## Example OGAD Evaluation Scenarios

The Gluten/Allergen Detection Service Dog must be evaluated in each of the four exercises, along with the overall Behavior and Well-Being evaluation: Controlled Search™ Exercise, Packaged Items Exercise, Mealtime Exercise, and Independent Work Exercise. Teams completing the OGAD must perform either the Mealtime or Packaged Items Exercises in a public setting. Teams completing the OGADH must do these exercises at home. The following are examples of the choices a handler may make for evaluating their dog:

**Scenario 1** (This scenario is advised for a handler with an airborne allergen reaction who benefits from knowing when it is safe to enter a room):

- Behavior and Well-Being (Pass/Fail)
- Controlled Search™ Exercise;
- Packaged Items Exercise (Public);
- Mealtime Exercise; and
- Room Search (Independent Work Exercise).

**Scenario 2** (This scenario is appropriate for most teams):

- Behavior and Well-Being (Pass/Fail)
- Controlled Search™ Exercise with Handler Bias Removal (Independent Work Exercise, Exempt from Controlled Search™ Exercise);
- Packaged Items Exercise; and
- Mealtime Exercise (Public).

**Scenario 3** (This scenario is appropriate for most teams):

- Behavior and Well-Being (Pass/Fail)
- Controlled Search™ Exercise;
- Packaged Items Exercise (Public);
- Mealtime Exercise; and
- Container Search (Independent Work Exercise).



## Behavior and Well-Being Pass/Fail Sections

The following behaviors are assessed throughout the entire evaluation and are scored on a pass or fail basis. A failure in any of these behaviors will result in an immediate failure of the entire evaluation. If a team fails the “Inappropriate Dog Behavior” or “Inappropriate Handler Behavior” sections, the team must wait a minimum of thirty (30) days before attempting the evaluation again. If any other element/behavior is failed, the team must wait a minimum of one (1) week before attempting the evaluation again.

### Dog Behavior

If the dog displays any of the following behaviors during the evaluation, the team will not earn the title:

- Aggression or growling;
- Inappropriate or excessive barking;
- Nipping or biting;
- Baring teeth;
- Lunging at other people or animals;
- Not under the handler’s control within one minute;
- Inappropriate elimination (defecation or urination); or
- Fear (startle with a quick recovery is acceptable), distress or anxiety (such as cowering, attempting to flee, hiding or trembling).

### Handler Behavior

If the handler performs any of these behaviors during the evaluation, the team will not earn the title:

- Hitting, kicking, or shaking the dog;
- Physically or verbally intimidating the dog;
- Throwing something at the dog with the intent to harm or intimidate; or
- Physically manipulating the dog into a position.

### Training Aids

The handler may praise the dog at any time throughout the evaluation. Treats and toys may be used to reward the dog at the completion of a task, but may not be used to lure the dog. Nothing worn by the dog should ever be used inappropriately, or for corrections.

Dogs may wear any of the following during the evaluation:

- Properly fitted flat, buckle or martingale collar;
- Non-constricting/non-corrective harness (front or rear attachment,) to include a Service Dog vest; and/or
- Head halter.



Dogs may **NOT** wear any of the following during the evaluation:

- Prong/pinch collar;
- Choke collar;
- Electric collar (such as shock, vibrating, GPS, and similar); or
- Studded or prong harness.

## **Protective Footwear**

When performing an exercise outdoors on surfaces such as pavement, asphalt, gravel, sand, or wood, the handler should demonstrate at the start of filming each exercise that they have touched the surface with the palm of their hand for at least five (5) seconds to evaluate the temperature. If the handler is unable to hold their hand to the surface for the full five (5) seconds because the surface is too hot, the dog must wear boots or other protective gear for the exercises filmed on that surface.

## **Care and Well-being**

The dog should be clean and well-groomed (e.g., nails, fur, etc.) and have no offensive odor. The dog should be friendly and relaxed. The handler's responses to questions about the care of the dog should indicate that the handler understands and is responsive to the dog's needs. The dog should be in good body condition.

## **Team Relationship**

It is important for a Service Dog Team to have a positive and close relationship. Both the handler and the dog should be relaxed; there should be positive reinforcement for the dog's good behavior. It should be clear to the Evaluator that the handler understands what type of praise and positive reinforcement the dog enjoys and uses those methods to encourage their dog.