

## OBEDIENCE COMPONENT

All applicant dogs must be obedient and under control at all times. The successful dog and handler teams must complete the

1. Heel, jog at heel, sit and down at heel, automatic sit on stop, about face.
2. Down Stay (Handler Visible 28 meters approximately 30 yards) 7minutes:
3. Recall (from a distance of 28 meters approximately 30 yards.)
4. Stay on recall
5. Down Stay (Handler out of sight for 5 minutes).
6. Stop & Sit at a distance of 15 meters approximately 16.4 yards
7. Down at a distance of 15 meters approximately 16.4 yards
8. Sit from a Down position of 15 meters approximately 16.4 yards.
9. Bark (Loudly) on command
10. Stop to Down Stay from recall. (Handler visible 5 min. stay.)
11. Drop & Crawl from recall (from a distance of 15 meters approximately 16.4 yards)
12. Finish at heel position.

The following will be grounds for immediate dismissal and applicants will be issued a "FAIL" on the session.

1. Dogs that soil (relieve themselves) the testing field
2. Dogs that exhibit unprovoked aggression toward any human or another dog.
3. Dogs that break command who's handler cannot immediately re-establish control (within 30 seconds time frame).
4. Handlers who issue or Dogs who require more than two (2) consecutive "same" commands before the required response.
5. Handler who argues or debates ruling of the testing official or otherwise exhibits rude behavior.
6. Abusive or cruel treatment of any dog.
7. Failure to follow instructions given by The Testing Official.

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The exam is designed to test the working relationship between dog and handler, to test the dog's proficiency in executing commands and the handler's level of control over his/her K9 Partner.

The Obedience component must be successfully passed in a timely fashion before proceeding on to the Utility or the Endorsement Components.

Handler may NOT communicate with his/ her K9 Partner with anything other than the handler's body language, voice and hand signals.

The K9 Partner is expected to watch the handler's leg movements and get his cue that a turn is forthcoming from the body language signal of the handler only.

During the heel exam phase the K9 Partner's shoulders should not exceed more than approximately 16 to 18 inches distance from the median line from the handler's knees at any given time while heeling.

Each phase may be tested in any order the testing official chooses and will be judged on a pass/fail basis.

All phases will be done under direction of the K9 Intelligence unit Testing Official.

The obedience component exams are broken up into two sessions. The first session will be for voice command only.

The second session will be for hand signals only. No voice commands will be allowed during this session.

Praise and reward will always be allowed at the end of a testing phase. Under NO circumstances will "treats" be allowed on the testing field.

The testing official will have the final say. His/ Her word is the last word.

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## **Heel, jog at heel, sit and down at heel, automatic sit on stop, about face.**

1. **Heel phase #1 right turn & about:** The handler will proceed when instructed by the testing official, along with his/ her K9 Partner (who is positioned at the handler's left side), to move in a straight line away from the starting point to a distance of 28 meters approximately 30 yards, at which point the testing official will signal that a 90 degree turn (the 1st) to the right will be immediately executed by the Handler and his/ her K9 Partner without slowing or changing stride. The Handler will then proceed 28 meters approximately 30 yards at which point the testing official will signal that the Handler and his/ her K9 Partner will execute another (the 2nd) 90 degree right hand turn without slowing or changing stride. The handler will then proceed 28 meters approximately 30 yards at which point the testing official will signal that the Handler and his/ her K9 Partner will execute (the 3rd) another 90 degree right hand turn without slowing or changing stride. The Handler along with his/ her K9 Partner have now completed three 90 degree right hand turns and are headed back toward the starting point.

2. **About Face phase:** The Handler and his/ her K9 Partner will then upon two (2) short whistle blows in rapid succession by the testing official execute a hard about face maneuver without breaking stride, changing or slowing pace, to return back along the same pathway 28 meters approximately 30 yards that was just taken prior to making the about face.

3. **Heel phase #2 left turn & about:** The handler will proceed when instructed by the testing official, along with his/ her K9 Partner (who is positioned at the handler's left side), to move in a straight line away from the starting point to a distance of 28 meters approximately 30 yards, at which point the testing official will signal that a 90 degree turn (the 1st) to the left will be immediately executed by the Handler and his/ her K9 Partner without slowing or changing stride. The Handler will then proceed 28 meters approximately 30 yards at which point the testing official will signal that the Handler and his/ her K9 Partner will execute another (the 2nd) 90 degree left hand turn without slowing or changing stride. The handler will then proceed 28 meters approximately 30 yards at which point the testing official will signal that the Handler and his/ her K9 Partner will execute (the 3rd) another 90 degree left hand turn without slowing or changing stride. The Handler along with his/ her K9 Partner have now completed three 90 degree left hand turns and are headed back toward the starting point.

4. **Stop automatic sit phase:** At any given point along the route and possibly at various times during the heel phase the Handler and his/ her K9 Partner may receive instruction from the testing official where upon the Handler and his/ her K9 Partner will immediately stop in place. The Handler will abruptly stop with both feet together and his/ her hands at his/ her side. The K9 Partner should automatically sit facing forward at the Handlers left side in an alert attentive and ready manner. The K9 Partner will sit with his rear feet squarely under him and will not lean into the Handler or touch the Handler at any time during the exam.

5. **Jog at heel phase:** Repeat 1.), 2.), 3.), and 4. in the second (2nd) session) above while Handler and his/ her K9 Partner is at a jogging pace.

6. **Sit and down at heel phase:** Upon direction from the testing official the Handler will stop. Once in a halted position and an automatically sit as in part #4 has been executed by the K9 Partner and upon further instruction from the testing official the Handler will instruct his/ her K9 Partner into a "Down" position, first with voice then by hand signal. The K9 Partner will go into the down position with rear legs underneath him while his front legs are outstretched head held erect eyes forward or on the Handler. The K9 Partner will present an alert, ready and attentive position. The K9 Partner will not lie on its side at any time during this testing phase.

**7. Down stay (Handler Visible 28 meters approximately 30 yards / 7 minutes):** Once the K9 Partner is in the down position and upon a signal from the testing official, the Handler will give the appropriate command to "Stay". The Handler will step away from his/ her K9 Partner leading with his/ her right foot. With no other command given, the Handler will then walk with his/ her back to the dog without looking back in the direction of the dog, to a distance of 28 meters approximately 30 yards then turn and face his/ her K9 Partner. Once in this position, the Handler will give the appropriate command for his K9 Partner to "Stay". The K9 Partner is required to remain in a down stay position for 7 minutes. The time will begin from the moment the Handler leaves the dog. The K9 Partner **MUST** not move more than 5 inches from where it was placed on "down stay" until the Down stay phase is complete.

**8. Recall (from a distance of 28 meters approximately 30 yards.)** Upon instruction from the testing official, the Handler will recall his/ her K9 Partner using the appropriate command. The recall command will be given no more than two (2) times. The dog will return straight to the Handler without detour or altered course. When the K9 Partner returns to the Handler it will then "finish" by walking around behind the Handler coming to a sit position on the Handler's left side. The K9 Partner is **NOT** required to stop in front of the handler before the finish. After the K9 Partners return and has completed the finish, and has come to a sitting position on the Handlers left side, the dog will sit squarely with hind feet directly underneath hindquarters. Head is held erect facing forward directly parallel to the Handler, with it's attention directed either forward or on the Handler in an alert attentive manner.

**9. Stay on recall:** Upon direction from the testing official the Handler will give the appropriate stay command to and his/ her K9 Partner, where the dog is expected to remain in a sitting alert position. The Handler will then leading off with the right foot, walk away from his/ her K9 Partner proceeding forward 30 yards. Once the Handler has reached the 28 meters approximately 30 yards distance marked out, he/ she will then turn and face his/ her K9 Partner. Upon direction from the testing official, the Handler will then give hand signal only issue the recall command to his/ her K9 Partner. The appropriate recall command will be given no more than two (2) times. The dog will return straight to the Handler without detour or altered course. When the K9 Partner returns to the Handler it will then "finish" by walking around behind the Handler coming to a sit position on the Handler's left side. The K9 Partner is **NOT** required to stop in front of the handler before the finish. After the K9 Partners return and has completed the finish, and has come to a sitting position on the Handlers left side, the dog will sit squarely with hind feet directly underneath hindquarters. Head is held erect facing forward directly parallel to the Handler, with the dog's attention directed either forward or on the Handler in an alert attentive manner.

**10. Down Stay (Handler out of sight for 5 minutes) phase:** Upon direction from the testing official the Handler will give the appropriate Down stay command to and his/ her K9 Partner. The K9 Partner will go into the down position with rear legs underneath him while his front legs are outstretched head held erect eyes forward or on the Handler. The Handler will then leading off with the right foot, walk away from his/ her K9 Partner proceeding forward to an out of sight position designated by the testing official where his K9 Partner can not see him/ her. The Handler is to remain out of sight from his K9 Partner for 5 minutes. The K9 Partner is expected to remain in an alert, attentive down stay position. The K9 Partner is not expected to remain in a squared down position with it's rear legs squarely underneath, but may lay over onto its side as long as it's head is erect and attention is predominately focused on the blind where it's handler is hidden out of sight. The K9 Partner is required to stay within 24 inches of where it was placed on the down stay command. The handler will then receive direction from the testing official to move into a position where the Handler will be visible to their K9 Partner. The Handler may then give appropriate stay command to reinforce the original command. The dog must stay in place until the Handler is directed by the testing official to recall his K9 Partner.

**11. Stop & Sit at a distance of 15 meters approximately 16.4 yards:** Upon direction from the testing official. The Handler will recall his/ her K9 Partner from 28 meters approximately 30 yards using the appropriate command. The appropriate recall command will be given no more than two (2) times. The dog will immediately start to return straight to the Handler without detour or altered course. Upon direction from the testing official or when the dog is

approximately 15 meters (approximately 16.4 yards) from the Handler, the Handler will give the voice only command to "Stop". The dog will immediately and without hesitation, come to a full and complete stop then remain standing. The K9 Partner must not proceed but must remain still. Standing where the Handler gave the command to stop. The dog will not "creep" or "inch forward" the dog must remain within 24 inches from where it was when the Handler gave the "Stop" command. Then upon direction from the testing official the Handler will then give the appropriate "Sit" command to his K9 Partner. The dog will immediately sit squarely with rear legs directly underneath hindquarters. Head is held erect facing forward in the direction of the Handler, with it's attention directed on the Handler in an alert attentive manner waiting for further command from his/ her Handler.

**12. Down at a distance of 15 yards:** Upon direction from the testing official. With his/ her K9 Partner in a sit stay position, the Handler will give the appropriate "Down" command to his/ her K9 Partner. The K9 Partner will go into the down position with rear legs squarely underneath while the front legs are outstretched, head held erect, eyes forward or on the Handler. The K9 Partner will not lie on its side at any time during this testing phase. The dog will not "creep" or "inch forward" the dog must remain within 24 inches from where it was when the Handler gave the "Down" command. Head is held erect facing forward in the direction of the Handler, with it's attention directed on the Handler in an alert attentive manner waiting for further command from his/ her Handler.

**13. Sit from a Down position of 15 meters approximately 16.4 yards:** Upon direction from the testing official the Handler will give the appropriate "Sit" command to his K9 Partner. The dog will execute the command from a down stay position with the Handler 15 meters approximately 16.4 yards away. The sit command will be given no more than two (2) times. The K9 Partner will immediately sit squarely with rear legs directly underneath hindquarters. Head is held erect facing forward in the direction of the Handler, with it's attention directed on the Handler in an alert attentive manner. Upon direction from the testing official, the Handler will move to his/ her K9 Partner, then will reward the dog.

**14. Bark (Loudly) on command:** Upon direction from the testing official, the Handler will issue the appropriate command for his/ her K9 Partner to bark. The dog will bark in a continuous loud bark for at least 10 seconds.

**15. Stop to Down Stay from recall. (Handler visible 5 min. stay):** Upon direction from the testing official the Handler will give the appropriate "stay" command to and his/ her K9 Partner, where the dog is expected to remain in a sitting alert position. The Handler will then leading off with the right foot, walk away from his/ her K9 Partner proceeding forward 28 meters approximately 30 yards. Once the Handler has reached 28 meters approximately 30 yards distance, he/ she will then turn and face his/ her K9 Partner. Upon direction from the testing official, the Handler will then give the appropriate "Recall" command to his/ her K9 Partner. The recall command will be given no more than two (2) times. The dog will proceed directly toward the Handler without detour or altered course. When the K9 Partner approaches approximately the 15 meters (approximately 16.4 yards) mark, the Handler will then issue the appropriate "Stop" command. Immediately the Handler will issue the appropriate "Down" command. The K9 Partner will respond by dropping into a down position it's head is held erect facing forward, with the dog's attention directed either forward or on the Handler in an alert attentive manner. The K9 Partner will remain in this stay position with the Handler in view of the dog for a period of no less than 5 minutes. The dog will not "creep" or "inch forward" the dog must remain within 24 inches from where it was when the Handler gave the "Stop" command. Upon direction from the testing official, the Handler will recall his/ her K9 Partner using the appropriate command. The recall command will be given no more than two (2) times. The dog will return straight to the Handler without detour or altered course. When the K9 Partner returns to the Handler it will then "finish" by walking around behind the Handler coming to a sit position on the Handler's left side. The K9 Partner is NOT required to stop in front of the handler before the finish. After the K9 Partners return and has completed the finish, and has come to a sitting position on the Handlers left side, the dog will sit squarely with hind feet directly underneath hindquarters. Head is held erect facing forward directly parallel to the Handler, with it's attention directed either forward or on the Handler in an alert attentive manner.

**16. Drop & Crawl from recall (from a distance of 15 meters approximately 16.4 yards):** Upon direction from the testing official the Handler will give the appropriate "Stay" command to and his/ her K9 Partner, where the dog is expected to remain in a sitting alert position. The Handler will then leading off with the right foot, walk away from his/ her K9 Partner proceeding forward 28 meters approximately 30 yards. Once the Handler has reached 28 meters approximately 30 yards, he/ she will then turn and face his/ her K9 Partner. Upon direction from the testing official, the Handler will then give the recall command to his/ her K9 Partner. The recall command will be given no more than two (2) times. The dog will proceed directly toward the Handler without detour or altered course. When the K9 Partner approaches approximately the 15 meters (approximately 16.4 yards) mark, the Handler will then issue the appropriate "Stop" command. Immediately the Handler will issue the appropriate "Down" command. The K9 Partner will respond by dropping into a down position it's head is held erect facing forward, with the dog's attention directed either forward or on the Handler in an alert attentive manner. Upon direction from the testing official the Handler will then issue the appropriate "Crawl" command. The K9 Partner will crawl from its down position and remain low to the ground as it crawls toward the Handler. The Handler may repeat the "Crawl" command no more than 3 times. The K9 Partner must crawl the distance of at least 5 yards. Upon direction from the testing official, the Handler will recall his/ her K9 Partner using the appropriate command. The recall command will be given no more than two (2) times. The dog will return straight to the Handler without detour or altered course.

**17. Finish at heel position:** When the K9 Partner returns to the Handler it will then "finish" by walking around behind the Handler coming to a sit position on the Handler's left side. The K9 Partner is NOT required to stop in front of the handler before the finish. After the K9 Partners return and has completed the finish, and has come to a sitting position on the Handlers left side, the dog will sit squarely with hind feet directly underneath hindquarters. Head is held erect facing forward directly parallel to the Handler, with it's attention directed either forward or on the Handler in an alert attentive manner.