

STATE BOARD OF GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND

Proposed Language

Amend Section 2285 of Division 22 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations to read as follows:

§ 2285. Ethical Standards of Conduct Practice for a Guide Dog Instructor or Guide Dog School

A violation of any ethical standard of practice constitutes grounds for disciplinary action. Every person or entity that holds a license issued by the Board shall comply with the following ethical standards of practice:

(a) ~~A licensee may not release any personal or identifying information regarding a student client to any person, other than the Board or its staff, without the student's client's written permission, unless otherwise allowed by local, state, or federal regulations. A licensee shall obtain written permission from the client before the client is photographed or tape-recorded for examination or other purpose.~~

~~(b) A licensee shall provide each student with all services generally associated with or offered by the school and with those services required by the Code or regulations.~~

(b) A licensee shall comply with the Guide Dog Act, the California Code of Regulations, and all other related local, state, and federal laws.

(c) ~~A guide dog instructor licensee shall not engage in undue intimidation or coercion of students or graduates clients, or physical violence or threat thereof of violence, to such persons in a manner contrary to the best interests of guide dog usage.~~

(d) A guide dog instructor shall provide each client with all services generally associated with or offered by the school and with those services required by the Code or regulations.

(e) A guide dog instructor shall comply with state and federal laws pertaining to non-discrimination.

f) A guide dog instructor shall take reasonable precautions to avoid imposing or inflicting harm upon the client or to his or her property.

(1) A guide dog instructor shall not exploit clients in any manner.

(2) A guide dog instructor shall avoid relationships or activities that interfere with professional judgment and objectivity.

(g) A guide dog instructor shall collaborate with clients in setting goals and expectations throughout the training process. Decisions regarding continuing or discontinuing instruction will be made with the client and will be based upon evaluation of the client's needs, abilities, and skills.

(h) A guide dog instructor shall fully inform the client of the nature, risks, and potential outcomes of the training and use of a guide dog.

(1) A guide dog instructor shall not make any false, fraudulent, or deceptive statements or claims.

(2) A guide dog instructor shall provide information or materials regarding the training and use of guide dogs in large print, braille, or electronic format as deemed accessible by the client.

(i) A guide dog school shall obtain written permission from clients involved in outreach, education, or fundraising activities and shall retain such permission in the client's record. A guide dog school shall respect the client's right to refuse involvement in outreach, education, or fundraising activities.

Note: Authority cited: Section 7208, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Sections 7208 and 7211.9, Business and Professions Code.