MISSION STATEMENT
Guide Dogs for the Blind empowers lives by creating exceptional partnerships between people, dogs, and communities.

VISION STATEMENT
Guide Dogs for the Blind envisions a world with greater inclusion, opportunity, and independence by optimizing the unique capabilities of people and dogs.

ABOUT GDB
Guide Dogs for the Blind (GDB) is more than an industry-leading guide dog school; we are a passionate community that serves the visually impaired. With exceptional client services and a robust network of instructors, puppy raisers, donors, and volunteers, we prepare highly qualified guide dogs to serve and empower individuals who are blind or have low vision from throughout the United States and Canada. All of our services are provided free of charge, including personalized training and extensive post-graduation support, plus financial assistance for veterinary care, if needed.

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APPLY
Choosing to live the guide dog lifestyle is a big decision, so pairing a person with the right canine partner is critical. We are committed to the success of our students before, during, and long after the time they spend with us.

- All services are provided at no cost to our students — this includes the guide dog, transportation to and from one of our campuses (located in California and Oregon), instruction, and more.
- Our classes are two weeks long, and we provide highly customized instruction. Classes generally have 6-8 students and the ratio of students to instructors is 2:1.
- Students enjoy private rooms in our beautiful student residences. Amenities include delicious meals served three times a day; libraries; music, computer, and exercise rooms; off-leash dog play areas; dog grooming/bathing facilities, and more.

VOLUNTEER
GDB volunteers welcome dogs into their homes, socialize puppies, lead tours of our campuses, and help in many other ways. Volunteering with GDB is a great way to give back while connecting with our mission.

- Our PUPPY RAISERS are responsible for teaching our puppies good manners and providing socialization experiences for about the first year of the pups’ lives. Puppy raisers typically join local puppy raising clubs, wherein they share ideas and information, work on training techniques, and participate in socialization outings. The pups return to one of our campuses for their formal guidework training when they are between 15 and 17 months old. When the pups graduate as guides, raisers are invited to the graduation ceremonies to celebrate the life-changing partnerships they helped create. Puppy raising volunteer opportunities are located in communities throughout the western United States.

- BREEDING STOCK CUSTODIANS are essential volunteers who provide housing and day-to-day care of GDB’s breeder dogs, all with the benefit of having a special dog in their families. This opportunity is available to volunteers who live within a 50-mile radius of our California campus.

- Our CAMPUS VOLUNTEERS help with a wide variety of interesting and important volunteer jobs available at both GDB campuses.

DONATE
GDB’s generous donors help us fulfill our mission through general contributions, grants, honor or memorial gifts, bequests, and numerous estate planning options. We also host several signature fundraising events each year near our campuses, and GDB Friends Committees help us raise funds and spread the word about our programs locally in various regions of support.

Donors are recognized for their commitment to GDB through the PRESIDENT’S CIRCLE, dedicated to those who have made a substantial contribution during the course of a year. Our LEGACY SOCIETY honors the vision of those who have included GDB in their estate plans.

GDB is funded entirely with private donations; we receive no government funding.

Guide Dogs for the Blind is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, charitable organization. All donations are fully tax deductible.

To apply, volunteer, or donate, please visit guidedogs.com.
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- GDB provides graduates with a lifetime of support. We have a world-class alumni association and also offer the following: financial assistance for vet care, as needed; in-person follow-up visits; access to a dedicated support center; and when a guide dog retires, we can discuss the potential for a successor dog.

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