

Information on Tufts Paws for People/Pet Partners[®] evaluations

Seeking a Pet Partners[®] evaluation?

Please refer to our website for the schedule of evaluation dates. Sign up for an evaluation as soon as possible as evaluation day schedules fill quickly! Please keep in mind that you must first complete the Pet Partners[®] Handler Training course before being evaluated. The dates on which these training courses will be held, as well as registration information, is also available on our website vet.tufts.edu/pawsforpeople.

Seeking a renewal evaluation?

Those in need of a renewal evaluation may do that evaluation as early as six months ahead of time without changing their Pet Partners[®] next expiration date (month will stay the same). Please remember that the results of a renewal evaluation are current regardless of the expiration date of your previous evaluation (i.e., if you don't pass, your registration status is "not ready" until you pass an evaluation).

Want to see what an evaluation is like?

Contact us to sign up to volunteer at an evaluation – help is always needed! Volunteering is a great way to see what the evaluators are looking for in each exercise, and you can learn skills that you can practice before doing your own evaluation.

Preparing for an evaluation?

You should prepare for the evaluation as though you were going on an actual visit with your pet. This includes your animal's grooming requirements (i.e., bathing, nails, teeth, and ears). Remember to interact with the volunteers as though they were part of a real facility. We strongly recommend that you review the exercises for the evaluation in the Pet Partners Student Manual, and practice them ahead of time to ensure that you are as relaxed as possible going in to your own evaluation.

Where are the evaluations?

The evaluations are held at the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University, located at 200 Westboro Rd., Grafton, MA 01536, in the Jean Mayer Administration Building. This is a large, brick building directly across the street from the animal hospitals. There is a brick sign at the street that says, "200 Westboro Road", and a rolling hay field to the right of the building.

What do I bring to an evaluation?

You'll need to bring proof of rabies in the form of either a vaccination or rabies certificate with a valid expiration date on it and the completed handler's questionnaire from the student manual, or Pet Partners[®] website <http://www.petpartners.org>. **Pet Partners[®] will not allow us to do your evaluation without either of these documents, so please don't forget them.** You also need to bring a soft brush for the "appearance and grooming" exercise, and food treats for the "offer a treat" exercise if you'd rather use your own treats instead of the ones that we'll have with us. Keep in mind that for all other exercises of the evaluation, no treats may be used and you may not carry any treats, food, or toys with you during the evaluation.

Important reminders

Don't forget your proof of rabies in the form of either a vaccination or rabies certificate with a valid expiration date on it and the completed handler's questionnaire. Please keep in mind that just like a visit, the evaluation starts as soon as you arrive on the premises, so please keep Pet Partners[®] policies in mind at all times (participants seen acting inappropriately on the grounds can be given a 'not ready status' based on those acts, even if not during an evaluation).