

Shelter Playgroup Alliance Safe Handling Workshop Overview

Thank you for considering hosting a Shelter Playgroup Alliance safe handling workshop at your shelter! The purpose of this educational program is to elevate the behavioral knowledge of your shelter's staff and volunteers as well as provide techniques and practice using defensive handling procedures. By elevating behavioral knowledge, staff and volunteers will better recognize risky situations and respond appropriately, minimizing the need for the use of defensive handling.

Here are a few things to consider:

1. Participants must complete six Shelter Playgroup Alliance on-line educational modules that provide an overview of canine behavior in preparation for the in-person workshop.
2. In addition to the workshop fee (see below) we ask that you provide a light breakfast, snacks, drinks (coffee, tea, water), and lunch for participants.
3. We recommend hosting the workshop on a day that your shelter is closed to the public so that your team can focus on learning the handling skills.
4. The one-day workshop will be limited to 20 people who will work in small groups of four or five. Your shelter's staff and volunteers who have completed the on-line module are the only individuals who can participate. If you have more than 20 people that should complete the workshop, we can schedule multiple days for the hands-on portion.
5. Please review the materials needed in the table below. If there are items that you don't already have in shelter, please let us know so that we can supply those for the workshop.

Cost: \$4,000 - \$10,000 depending on number of days and estimated travel costs

Requesting a workshop for your shelter: Please send an email to Mara Velez, mara@shelterdogplay.org to request a meeting to set-up the details for your shelter.

On-line Module Details

Course number & Estimated time	Module title	Learning objectives
Foundation Course 3 40 mins	Canine Communication Basics: Part I	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> List the functions of canine communication Recognize common social signals
Foundation Course 4 40 mins	Canine Communication Basics: Part II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> List the functions of canine communication Recognize common social signals
Foundation Course 5 40 mins	Canine Communication: Focus on Fear and Anxiety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the social signals that indicate a dog is feeling fear or anxiety
Foundation Course 6 40 mins	Canine Communication: Focus on Aggression	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the social signals that indicate a dog is displaying threat signals
Foundation Course 7 40 mins	Canine Play Behaviors: Part I	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe canine play behaviors
Foundation Course 8 40 mins	Canine Play Behaviors: Part II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe canine play behaviors

In-person Workshop Details

Day	Topic	Learning objectives	Materials needed
Day 1 9:30 am start 12:00 pm lunch 4:30 pm close	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Handling basics Defensive handling Breaking up dog fights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate the ability to use defensive handling techniques and assess risky situations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leashes 4 large stuffed dogs Pig board Bite stick
Day 2 (optional half day) 9:30 am start 12:00 pm lunch and close	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safe and low stress handling for veterinary procedures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate the ability to safe and low-stress handling techniques for common veterinary procedures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leashes 4 large stuffed dogs 2 small stuffed dogs Towels