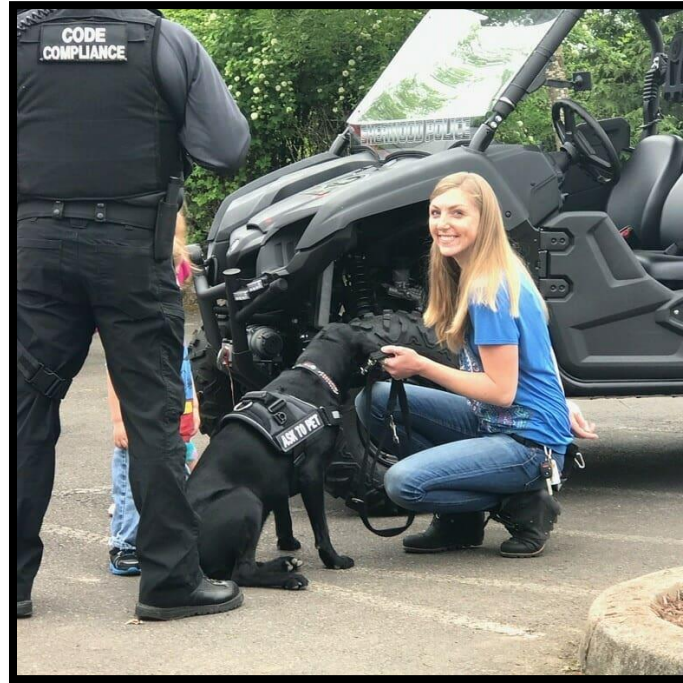


# Joint Custody – 40/60 Program



This is the most appealing program option for most facilities. During this program, the puppy will stay with the Puppy Raiser for 2-3 weeks per month, and then the puppy will stay with the Primary Handler for the remainder of each month for a 12-month period. All of the Shared Custody program options begin with an intensive 12-month training program, and then switch to a fine-tuning phase where the trainer is available for occasional maintenance sessions in the facility. After the 22-month program, the ownership of the puppy will be transferred from Paws for Responders to the facility. Since most puppies start the program between 2-3 months of age, they will be around 2 years old when the program is finished.

Please read through the following pages to learn more about the different stages of training, the overview of the training schedule and payment plan, as well as a list of all expenses covered by the cost of the program. Paws for Responders is dedicated to helping every facility, handler, and puppy succeed, and we are excited to assist you throughout the process of training a working facility dog.

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# Comfort K9 Training Stages

## Puppy Training

| Definition  | Focus   | Examples   | Age        |
|---|---|--|------------|
| Teaching the puppy how to navigate the world successfully | Building confidence, teaching manners, addressing "puppy" behaviors | Socializing, potty training, appropriate play, puppy nipping, appropriate greetings, introducing the leash, crate training, etc. | 0-5 months |

## Basic Obedience

| Definition   | Focus  | Examples   | Age        |
|--|--|--|------------|
| Teaching cues to increase responsiveness and handler control | Teaching the puppy how to make good choices, giving the puppy replacement behaviors for common problem behaviors, teaching impulse control | Sit, down, stay, wait at the door, loose leash walking, off, leave it, drop it, come, etc. | 3-8 months |

## Advanced Obedience

| Definition   | Focus   | Examples   | Age         |
|--|---|--|-------------|
| Refining cues and increasing reliability around distractions | Adding duration, distance, and distraction to basic obedience, fine tuning gestures and verbal cues | Stay for extended duration, heel past distractions, ignoring dogs in public, responding to cues the first time, responding to more subtle cues, etc. | 8-18 months |

## Public Access

| Definition  | Focus  | Examples   | Age         |
|---|--|--|-------------|
| Positively exposing the dog to stimuli found in public settings (different from home environment) | Creating positive associations with new environments, teaching the dog how to relax in public places, practicing obedience in public | Riding in elevators, settling at a park, riding in the car, walking through crowds, passing bikes/strollers/shopping carts/ etc. | 3-24 months |

## Tasks and Skills

| Definition   | Focus  | Examples   | Age          |
|--|--|--|--------------|
| Teaching the dog how to perform the tasks needed for their job | Determining what, specifically, the dog will be used for | Settling at someone's feet, targeting with nose or paw, stabilizing a person, etc. | 12-24 months |

## Tests and Certifications

| Definition  | Focus   | Examples   | Age       |
|---|---|--|-----------|
| Dogs with job titles often need to pass tests to be certified | Testing the dog's skill set and making sure they behave appropriately for their job | Canine Good Citizen Therapy Certification Service Certification Etc. | 24 months |

## Joint Custody – 40/60 Program: Overview

### Milestone #1: Start Program

- Down Payment - **\$4,000**
  - What's included:
    - Initiates program, contracts signed, puppy search begins
    - Handlers receive access to online and printed training material

### Milestone #2: Raising the Puppy

- Monthly rate **\$1750** for 6 months      TOTAL: **\$10,500**
  - Age: 2-8 Months
  - What's included:
    - Puppy Raiser:
      - Has puppy in their home for 3 weeks/month
      - Attends private training and weekly group meetings with trainer
    - Handler:
      - Has puppy with them for remainder of each month
      - Receives monthly Private Facility Session at puppy handoff

### Milestone #3: Transitioning the Puppy

- Monthly rate **\$1,250** for 6 months      TOTAL: **\$7,500**
  - Age: 8-14 Months
  - What's included:
    - Puppy Raiser:
      - Has puppy in their home for 2 weeks/month
      - Attends private training and weekly group meetings with trainer
    - Handler:
      - Has puppy with them for remainder of each month
      - Receives monthly Private Facility Session at puppy handoff

### Milestone #4: Fine-tuning the Puppy

- Monthly rate **\$100** for 10 months      TOTAL: **\$1,000**
  - Age: 14-24
  - What's included:
    - Puppy lives with Handler full time
    - Handlers receive 5 Private Facility Sessions to use, as needed, during remaining 10 months of program

### Milestone #5: Transferring the Puppy

- Ownership is transferred to facility!

**Total for 40/60 Program = \$23,000\***

\*Additional fees apply to puppies in facilities out of service area

# Joint Custody – 40/60 Program: Checklist

## Included in Program:

- Puppy purchase price
- High Quality Dog Food provided for the duration of the program
- Veterinary care
  - All required vaccinations until 24 months old
  - Spay/neuter
  - Annual exams
  - Flea/tick/heartworm preventative
  - Additional vet expenses
- Grooming
  - Bathing
  - Brushing
  - Nail Trims
  - Optional (shaving, trimming, hand stripping)
- Basic supplies
  - Crate
  - Leashes
  - Harnesses
  - Training/working vest
  - Treat pouch
  - Food enrichment items
- Puppy Culture video
- Educational reading and training manual
- Online training courses
  - 10+ hours of instruction and demonstration
- Hands on Puppy Training with Certified Trainer
  - 30 weekly training and socializing sessions
  - 6 Private Training Sessions
- Puppy care, raising, and socializing with Certified Puppy Raiser
  - 30 weeks
- Primary and Secondary Handler coaching
  - 17 Private Facility Sessions
- Certification fees
  - Canine Good Citizen Evaluation
- Registration fees
  - American Kennel Club
- Full time access to training support via phone and email
- Access to private discussion group
- Transportation of puppy (if within service area)