

# Responsible Dog Owner Licence application



## Step 1: Applicant details

[Please note: only ONE owner per application]

First and Middle name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

The address where your dog(s) lives: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Business phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I am the registered owner of the following dog(s):

Dog name(s):	Current tag number(s):

## Criteria for Responsible Dog Owner Licence (RDOL) status

Please ensure that you meet all the criteria listed below by checking the boxes:

Office use only

1. Have you been a registered dog owner within New Zealand for at least 12 months prior to this application?  
 Yes  No
2. Have you registered your dog on time for the current registration year? (i.e. no later than 1 August). All new dogs must be registered before they turn 3 months old).  
 Yes  No
3. Have you had any abatements, seizures, impoundments or infringements under the Dog Control Act 1996 in the last 12 months?  
 Yes  No
4. Has your dog been the subject of any substantiated complaint under the Dog Control Act 1996 in the last 12 months?  
 Yes  No
5. Have you obtained a permit for keeping multiple dogs (depending on your area) on your property?  
 Yes  No  Not applicable



**NOTE: If you do not meet all the criteria, your application will not be processed.**

## Step 2: Written test

### Instructions:

- Tick the answer you believe is the best of the choices provided for each question.
- Select only one answer to each question. If you make an error put a X through it and select your new answer.

#### Q1. When does the new dog registration year start every year?

- a) 1 January
- b) 1 May
- c) 1 June
- d) 1 July
- e) 1 August

#### Q2. When does a new puppy have to be registered for the first time?

- a) As soon as it is born.
- b) Before it reaches three months of age.
- c) Before it reaches six months of age.
- d) When the new registration year starts.
- e) When I get a letter from the council.

#### Q3. When is the best time to start training a puppy so that it will develop a healthy relationship with its owner?

- a) At around eight weeks of age, or as soon as you take ownership of the dog; beginning with house training.
- b) Not until it is 12 months old when it will respond better.
- c) At around six months of age, beginning with formal obedience training.
- d) When the dog is mature and is able to understand.
- e) When the owner has time available to spend with the dog.

#### Q4. If you change your address or your dog's address, when do you have to notify the council?

- a) There is no legal requirement for you to notify the council.
- b) You must notify the council in writing within 14 days of any changes.
- c) The dog owner can notify the council at the start of the new registration year.
- d) The dog owner can notify the council whenever they get a chance to do it.

#### Q5. What is the MOST important reason to confine your dog so that it does not wander from your property?

- a) To avoid being fined.
- b) To avoid the dog being impounded.
- c) To prevent the dog from getting lost or stolen by someone.
- d) To prevent the dog from being killed or injured on the road.
- e) To ensure that your dog is not causing a nuisance to anyone, and that it is not posing a risk or a threat to any person, animal, or property.

#### Q6. Which of the following should you consider before getting a dog?

- a) Cost of feeding and veterinary care.
- b) Available time to spend with the dog.
- c) Arrangements for confining the dog at home.
- d) Arrangements for holidays when the dog must be left behind.
- e) All of the above.

#### Q7. When people who are not known to your dog visit your property, what is the best way to prevent your dog from attacking or causing any harm to them?

- a) Hit the dog if it barks at strangers or people visiting your property.
- b) Keep the dog adequately confined so that people can come to your door safely.
- c) Tell the people that your dog won't bite them and that it's safe to enter.
- d) Tie the dog up when the visitors arrive.
- e) Shut the gate so that nobody can come in.

#### Q8. What is the BEST option for the care of your dog if you leave for an extended period i.e., holiday or long weekend?

- a) Leave enough food and water for the dog to see it through.
- b) Have a friend or family member visit occasionally to provide food and water.
- c) Leave the radio on so the dog has some company.
- d) Book the dog into a boarding kennel facility while you are away.
- e) Let your dog be impounded so that the council can look after it.

#### Q9. Neutering a male dog at a young age is a recommended practice. Why is it a good idea to have a male dog neutered at a young age?

- a) To help prevent it from urinating in the house, roaming, or being aggressive to other male dogs.
- b) To stop it from growing too quickly.
- c) To prevent it from attacking female dogs.
- d) To become more obedient and easier to train.
- e) To bark less at strangers.

#### Q10. All dog owners MUST make sure that their dog:

- a) Never barks or howls.
- b) Only barks during the daytime.
- c) Does not create a nuisance by persistent and loud barking or howling.
- d) Does not bark at night.
- e) Only barks at strangers.

**Q11. Vaccinations for dogs are very important to prevent diseases in New Zealand is very contagious in dogs, and is often fatal in puppies, and can be prevented by a vaccine?**

- a) Distemper
- b) Rabies
- c) Canine Parvovirus
- d) Kennel cough
- e) Covid-19

**Q12. Who is legally responsible for the actions of a dog?**

- a) Any person under the age of 16 who is in charge of the dog.
- b) The registered owner of the dog.
- c) The person in charge of the dog.
- d) The owner of the property where the dog lives.
- e) The registered owner of a dog, the person in charge of a dog, or the parent or guardian of a child under 16 who owns a dog.

**Q13. Dogs may bark for many different reasons. What are the most common cause of nuisance barking or howling?**

- a) Boredom, anxiety, pain, hunger, or loneliness.
- b) Alerting their owner when a stranger approaches their property.
- c) Reacting to another animal approaching their property.
- d) Becoming excited when their owner arrives home.
- e) For no reason at all.

**Q14. When a 'season rule' applies to a beach in Auckland, what period is classed as 'summer season'?**

- a) Only the Christmas holiday season.
- b) 1 December to end of February.
- c) 1 September to 31 March.
- d) The period between the start and end of daylight savings.
- e) All year.

**Q15. Can a dog go onto any playground that is under the council's control?**

- a) Sometimes, as long as it is not aggressive to children.
- b) Only if the playground is large enough for children and dogs to play together.
- c) Yes, but only in the 'outside of summer' season.
- d) No, dogs are prohibited from all playgrounds
- e) Yes, but it must remain on a leash.

**Q16. If a dog owner visits a park or reserve and there are no signs showing whether dogs must be kept on a leash or if they can be exercised off leash, which rule must the owner follow?**

- a) The dog can do anything it wants – no signage means no rules apply.
- b) The dog can be exercised off leash anywhere.
- c) The default rule will apply, which means the dog must be kept on a leash.
- d) It can be exercised off leash, as long as no Dog Control Officers are around.
- e) It doesn't matter if there are no signs; the dog owner can decide what they want to do.

**Q17. If a Dog Control Officer requests information from a dog owner, or a person who appears to be in charge of a dog, what information MUST the person supply to the officer:**

- a) Only their name and address.
- b) Only their name, address, and contact details.
- c) Their name, address, phone number, date of birth.
- d) They do not have to supply any information; it is private.
- e) They can choose what they would like to supply.

**Q18. All dogs are required to be microchipped, except working farm dogs. Why is it important to get your dog microchipped?**

- a) The microchip will prevent the dog from roaming.
- b) The dog can be tracked by a satellite system if it gets lost.
- c) The council can identify your dog and reunite you with it if it ever gets impounded.
- d) The microchip serves no purpose.
- e) The microchip will prevent the dog from attacking anyone.

**Q19. When a female dog is 'in season', can they be exercised in a dog exercise area?**

- a) Yes, but only if the other dog owners in the area do not mind.
- b) Yes, but only between sunset and sunrise.
- c) No, a female dog in season may not be taken into any public place, unless to transport it, or if permission was granted by the person in control of the place.
- d) There are no rules for female dogs in season.

**Q20. New Zealand has many endangered and vulnerable shorebird species, which mostly breed on our beaches and sand dunes. Why is it important to keep your dog away from these areas, or keep it on a leash in the vicinity of their nesting areas?**

- a) The dog may injure or kill some of the birds.
- b) The birds may be prevented from feeding their chicks, causing them to starve, and dogs can also break the eggs in their delicate nests.
- c) Dogs are not a threat to shorebirds; it should not be an issue.
- d) I do not believe any shorebirds are endangered or vulnerable
- e) Both A & B

### Step 3: Apply Now!

Approval is subject to a satisfactory administrative check. Once your application has been processed, we will contact you to let you know if your application has been successful. If approved, the discount will be applied to the next registration year.

Please note that the personal information you provide on this form will be used to process your RDOL application. It will be held by Auckland Council and not disclosed to any third party. You have the right to access and correct any personal information that you provide.

Please return this form to:

Dog Registrations, Auckland Council, Private Bag 92300, Auckland 1142 Or email: [dogregistration@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz](mailto:dogregistration@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)

### Conditions of RDOL status

If you change your address within Auckland, you must notify us in writing within 14 days. Your RDOL status will be re-assessed pending a property inspection.

A RDOL can be revoked if:

- You fail to continue to meet the criteria of a RDOL; or
- Your dog has been the subject of a substantiated complaint and/or impoundment, seizure, abatement or infringement under the Dog Control Act 1996.

We will write to you to advise if a breach of the conditions has occurred. Your RDOL will be cancelled and we will explain the process of how to have the RDOL reinstated.

**I have read and understood the criteria and conditions relating to the Responsible Dog Owner Licence application and status.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Find out more:** phone 09 301 0101  
or visit [aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/dogs](http://aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/dogs)

Office use only:

Owner ref: \_\_\_\_\_

Application number: \_\_\_\_\_

Sys check: PASS / FAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Test: PASS / FAIL ( /20) \_\_\_\_\_

Date fail letter sent OR inspection requested: \_\_\_\_\_