

PILOT for Pets



Position	<u>Behavior Observer</u>
Primary Objective	The PILOT behavior observer observes and records the behavior of dogs awaiting transfer in the PILOT program. This involves traveling to animal welfare organizations, observing dogs' behavior (in accordance with the PILOT behavior observation protocol), and reporting observations to the PILOT program.
Weekly Time Commitment	Each behavior observation requires an approximately 3–4 hour time commitment; this includes travel time. Some observers may be called frequently to conduct observations whereas others may be called upon sporadically. The frequency of volunteer activity is based upon PILOT's need, the observer's proximity to the shelter location, schedule availability, and distance they are willing to travel.
More Details	Shift is irregular. Must have a flexible enough schedule to be occasionally available during operating hours of animal control facilities and shelters/rescues, generally Monday–Friday during normal business hours. Some weekend and evening hours may be available. Must be able to respond to requests for behavior observations quickly. Observation is usually conducted within a few days of request.
Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responds promptly when an observation is requested and works quickly with the behavior coordinator and sending organization to schedule an observation • Maintains thorough knowledge of PILOT's behavior observation protocol and follows it at all times • Conducts behavior observations which include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Full body handling ○ Observing behaviors resembling aggression and possession (with strangers, handling, food, toys, high value items such as treats, etc.) ○ Observing dogs with other animals ○ Personality and socialization observation • Handle dogs in a safe and friendly manner at all times. Safety of volunteers is of the utmost importance to PILOT • Ideally, behavior observers will work in pairs; however, behavior observers should be able to work independently • Complete observations in a timely manner and post results to the PILOT database expeditiously • Is keenly aware of the bigger picture of dog behavior issues, approach dog behavior with a level head, do not jump to conclusions, and be aware of the gravity of the role that the behavior observations play in the PILOT program • Reports to the behavior coordinator
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Experience conducting behavior observations or assessments a plus ✓ Knowledge of canine behavior ✓ Experience caring for or handling canines ✓ Must feel comfortable handling dogs of all breeds, sizes, and ages ✓ Ability to handle confidential information in a professional and responsible manner ✓ Excellent communication, organization, and interpersonal skills ✓ Access to Internet, email and phone ✓ Must have personal vehicle that is registered and insured with a current inspection sticker ✓ Volunteer will be required to provide copy of current auto insurance that meets MA minimum coverage requirements, and a current driver's license to PILOT program ✓ All volunteers are expected to act in a professional manner when representing PILOT and when dealing with volunteers, animal control or shelter and rescue organizations, in order to benefit the animals to the greatest degree
Training Requirements	<p>All volunteers are required to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Read the volunteer handbook in its entirety ✓ Review the volunteer orientation slideshow ✓ Refer any questions to the case manager or the volunteer coordinator <p>In addition, the behavior observer is required to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Review behavior observation forms ✓ Complete training on the PILOT database ✓ New PILOT behavior observers begin their training as “assistant” observers by working with a “lead” behavior observer. New behavior observers will spend a significant amount of time with lead observer watching behavior observations and recording results of observation ✓ Assistant observers will work with lead observers to build and hone behavior observation skills ✓ Not all assistant observers will be eligible for promotion to lead observer
Apply Now!	Click here to apply for this position.