

Certified Professional Dog Trainers Appropriately Identified

Professional dog trainers are being internationally recognized.

New York, New York, July 1, 2009 — The Certification Council for Professional Dog Trainers (CCPDT) has changed the title of Certified Pet Dog Trainer (CPDT) to Certified Professional Dog Trainer – Knowledge Assessed (CPDT-KA) effective today. All current CPDTs may now use this new designation.

The CCPDT is an international testing and certification program for professional pet dog trainers and the only independent certification. As such, the certification is neither tied to membership in any organization nor tied to graduation from a specific school. The certification is administered by independent proctors only after the applicant meets the published criteria to sit for the examination. The certification program administered by the CCPDT is the only dog trainer certification program that is psychometrically sound, meeting the standards of other well-known testing measures. Competence and continued professional growth is promoted through the recertification of qualified professionals.

In the future, the CCPDT be issuing certificates to CPDTs who have also passed a practical exam. Because this exam will assess a CPDT-KA's ability to train a dog with hands-on experience, the certification will be Certified Professional Dog Trainer – Knowledge & Skills Assessed (CPDT-KSA).

These changes are being made because the CCPDT believes skilled dog training requires not only knowledge of theory but effective application of that theory. Current and future CPDT-KAs will have the ability to verify to veterinarians, clients, and the public that they have attained a significant achievement in both the knowledge and skills areas of professional dog training.

This independence distinguishes the CPDT-KA certification from other dog trainer certificates and dog trainer certification programs. The difference between our professional certification and others can be more easily understood with the following concepts from the National Organization for Competency Assurance Guide to Understanding Credentialing Concepts.

Professional certification is the voluntary process by which a non-governmental entity grants a time-limited recognition and use of a credential to an individual after verifying that he or she has met predetermined and standardized criteria. It is the vehicle that a profession or occupation uses to differentiate among its members, using standards, sometimes developed through a consensus driven process, based on existing legal and psychometric requirements. The holder of a professional certification is called a certificant.

A certificate program is a training program on a topic for which participants receive a certificate after attendance and/or completion of the coursework. Some programs also require successful demonstration of attainment of the course objectives. One who completes a professional certificate program is known as a certificate holder. A credential is usually NOT granted at the completion of a certificate program.

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For more information contact: <http://www.ccpdt.org/>

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