



AKC BREEDER OF MERIT

THE HEART OF THE AKC

MISSION

In 2010, the American Kennel Club® established the AKC Breeder of Merit Program. It marked the first time since the AKC® was established over 125 years ago that a special designation of breeders was to be recognized. The purpose of the AKC Breeder of Merit Program is to identify and honor those breeders who consistently meet the high standards of the AKC and who actively promote the sport of purebred dogs.

QUALIFICATIONS

AKC Breeder of Merit Participants demonstrate a commitment to the AKC community, dedication to improving their breed, along with breeding dogs who are title winners.

Specific requirements include:

- Must have history of at least 5 years involvement with AKC events.
- Must have earned AKC Conformation, Performance or Companion event titles* on a minimum of 4 dogs from AKC litters they bred/co-bred.
- Must be a member of an AKC licensed club.
- Must certify that applicable health screens are performed on their breeding stock as recommended by the Parent Club. Be prepared to supply proof upon request.
- Currently in good standing with the AKC.
- Must demonstrate a commitment to ensure 100% of the puppies produced are AKC registered.

* Applied for Titles under the Family Dog & Title Recognition Programs, i.e. CGC, Trick, Fetch, or Barn Hunt, Working titles, etc., do not meet event participation or title requirements.

BENEFITS

Upon acceptance into the AKC Breeder of Merit Program you will receive:

- An AKC Breeder of Merit certificate and lapel pin.
- Your title of AKC Breeder of Merit Participant proudly showcased on all AKC registration certificates and dog applications, along with a distinctive gold border and AKC Breeder of Merit insignia.
- Name listed as a Breeder of Merit on the AKC website (optional).
- Free litter listings on AKC Marketplace.
- Breed specific banners for your personal website.
- A \$30 monthly credit toward AKC online reports.
- Special offers as announced.

REQUIREMENTS WHILE ENROLLED

- **Maintain 100% individual registration of puppies from bred/co-bred litters.**
- **Be able to supply proof of recommended health testing on sires & dams for litters produced after enrollment.**
- **Maintain membership in an AKC member or licensed club.**

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Online: www.akc.org/breederofmerit

Email: breederofmerit@akc.org

Phone: 919-233-9767



AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB®

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Customer # (Internal Use Only):

AKC® BREEDER OF MERIT PROGRAM APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION (REQUIRED*)

First Name* Middle Initial* Last Name* (Previous Names) Date submitted*

Address Line One*

Address Line Two

City* State/Province* Postal Code* Country

Home Phone* Cell Phone Fax Number

Email Address* Website Address

My AKC Online Account User Name

Have you been the subject of an AKC inquiry in the past 5 years? Yes ☐ No ☐ If Yes, explain

BREEDING EXPERIENCE

Submit a separate application for each breed you qualify for.

What breed are you applying for?

Do you currently perform health screens on your breeding stock as recommended by your Parent Club? Yes ☐ No ☐

Your Parent Club testing requirements can be viewed at <https://www.akc.org/breeder-programs/breed-health-testing-requirements/>

List all health screens you currently perform on your breeding stock, by breed...

Tests Performed	Parent Club Recommended?
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

COMPETITION & CLUB EXPERIENCE

In what year did you begin exhibiting dogs in AKC events?

Club membership is *required* and will be verified. List AKC licensed clubs in which you are currently a member.*



AKC® BREEDER OF MERIT PROGRAM APPLICATION

TITLED DOGS

List AKC name and number of titled* AKC dogs you have bred or co-bred in the breed applied for:

1.	<input type="text"/>	3.	<input type="text"/>
2.	<input type="text"/>	4.	<input type="text"/>

*Required titles may be in Conformation, Companion, and Performance Events. Applied for titles (*CGC, Barn Hunt, Working titles, etc.*) do not meet AKC event requirements. Titles must be either competitive, require multiple passes or the opinion of more than one judge.

If accepted, would you like your name published on the AKC website as an AKC Breeder of Merit participant?* Yes ☐ No ☐

SIGNING/CERTIFYING/SUBMITTING THE FORM

Read the certifying language and the Arbitration Clause at the bottom of the page. If agreed:

To submit this form to the AKC via email –

- Click the box that says “Click here to type in your full name and submit via email.” Once you have clicked this box, you will see a section to enter your name.
- Please enter your full name in this field. This will be considered your electronic signature and will verify that you have read and agree to all the terms for the AKC Breeder of Merit Program.
- Verify that all required fields have been completed and all information is correct.
- Save a copy for your records.
- Click the “Send by email” button. This will pop up an email box with the AKC Breeder of Merit email address.
- Click “Send.”

To mail or fax this form to the AKC –

- Click the box that says “Click here to sign the form and submit via postal service.”
- Save a copy for your records.
- Click the “Print this Form” button.
- Once printed, sign the form and submit it to:
AKC Special Services Department, PO Box 900059, Raleigh, NC 27675-9059 or fax to (919) 816-3770.

I hereby apply to participate in the Breeder of Merit Program. I certify by my signature that I have read, understand, and will comply with the requirements of the Breeder of Merit Program, including ensuring all dogs from AKC registered litters produced by me will be registered with AKC. I certify by my signature that all the information appearing on this application is correct, that I am in good standing with the American Kennel Club (AKC), and that I agree to abide by all AKC rules and regulations. I acknowledge that upon request I will be required to provide the AKC copies of recommended parent club health screenings applicable to the breed(s) for litters produced while enrolled in the Breeder of Merit Program. I agree to maintain membership in an AKC licensed club while participating in the Breeder of Merit Program.

By signing, I agree to the arbitration clause at the bottom of this page.

☐ Check this box to agree: I have read the conditions of enrollment and certify my agreement with terms and requirements listed.

Each application for the Breeder of Merit Program will be considered on its merit. Applications will be verified through AKC records. The granting of Breeder of Merit Program participation is at the sole discretion of the American Kennel Club and is not guaranteed. The American Kennel Club reserves the right to reject an application or revoke participation in the Breeder of Merit Program after participation has been granted. Once submitted, the application and any supplemental materials become the property of the AKC. The Breeder of Merit Program does not imply a recommendation of a breeder by AKC.

ARBITRATION CLAUSE: I (WE) AGREE THAT ANY CAUSE OF ACTION, CONTROVERSY OR CLAIM ARISING OUT OF OR RELATED TO THIS APPLICATION OR AS TO THE CONSTRUCTION, INTERPRETATION AND EFFECT OF THIS AGREEMENT SHALL BE SETTLED BY ARBITRATION PURSUANT TO THE APPLICABLE RULES OF THE AMERICAN ARBITRATION ASSOCIATION. HOWEVER, PRIOR TO ARBITRATION ALL APPLICABLE AKC BYLAWS, RULES, REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES MUST FIRST BE FOLLOWED AS SET FORTH IN THE AKC CHARTER AND BYLAWS, RULES, REGULATIONS, PUBLISHED POLICIES AND GUIDELINES.