# Guidelines for the Shining Star Ambassador Applicants

This award is open to ANY PUREBRED COLLIE who works as a Service Dog; Search and Rescue Dog; Therapy and/or Library Dog; Community Outreach Dog; or has acted as a Protector for his/her family or member of the community. The owner does not need to be a CCA member, nor does the dog need to be bred by a CCA member. There are many dogs who would qualify for these broad criteria and the Shining Star Committee would love to hear their special stories. The Committee would like to recognize a collie in each of the listed categories and send them a certificate to honor their accomplishments.

One collie-handler team that represents the spirit of the Shining Star Program will be chosen as the Shining Star Ambassador. The Shining Star Ambassador team will represent all the collie teams at an awards ceremony at the Collie Club of America's National Specialty show and for the year following on the CCA website. Selection as "the" Shining Star Ambassador is a lifetime Honor and achievement for a dog. An owner/handler is welcome to apply with a different dog in subsequent years. The location and date of the National Specialty show changes each year and is listed elsewhere on the CCA website.

The Shining Star Committee would like you to tell us the story of the dog and why you think this collie should be chosen as a Shining Star. You may do this in any way that is comfortable for you in approximately 3 type-written pages or less. A photo of the dog is required. The photo must not exceed 5MB in size. A video is optional, but if submitted, a YouTube link to the video is required. We are providing you with a list of questions to answer in your application. Each application will be judged solely on the accomplishments of the collie. We require that you submit at least one letter of reference. This letter could be from a member of the Collie Club of America, from a facility that your dog serves (in the case of a therapy dog or a library dog) or other source.

1) What is the collie's name, variety, gender, color and age?
2) What is the name, e-mail, phone #, and mailing address of the dog's human partner?
3) When/how did you acquire the collie?
4) Please list out all categories that apply to your collie's work:
    a) Service dog
    b) Therapy and/or Library dog
    c) Community Outreach dog
    d) Search and Rescue dog
    e) Protector for his/her family or member of the community.
5) If your collie's work qualifies for a category that you did not list, would you like your dog's work to be considered for an additional category?
6) What does the collie do that serves the family and/or the community?
7) Where specifically does the collie perform his community/family service work?
8) How long has the dog been doing this community/family service?
9) What positive impact has this collie had on the person (people) he serves?
10) What makes this collie special?
11) What training did the collie receive to prepare for community/family service and where?
12) What specific titles and/or certifications did the collie complete to prepare for the service?

13) What titles, honorifics or testimonials has the dog earned because of his service?
14) What is the name, phone #, mailing address, and e-mail address of the (1) person submitting the application and (2) the owner/handler of the dog?
15) What is the mailing address for any written correspondence regarding the application?
16) How did you learn about the Shining Star Awards program?

Submit your application on or before January 9, 2027 to CCAShiningStar@outlook.com and Deborah Gates at debgates@earthlink.net and Corinne Boon at Corinneboon79@gmail.com

Before You Submit:

By submitting an application, you represent and warrant that the application provided is true and accurate and that you have the right to submit it to the Collie Club of America (CCA). You agree, represent, and warrant that all photographs are original, do not infringe any copyright, trademark, patent or other personal or proprietary right, and do not contain any scandalous, libelous, or unlawful matter. You agree that the CCA can use the application and photographs in all manner and media throughout the world and that the CCA has the right to authorize third parties to do so also. You agree that the CCA may edit the application as it sees fit in publication or promotion. If any claims or lawsuits are filed regarding the application and/or photographs, you agree to hold harmless the CCA, including its officers, directors and members.

You grant to the CCA a non-exclusive, unlimited, worldwide, license to use, reproduce, distribute, display and transmit (1) the Owner's and Nominator's name and likeness; (2) the name and likeness of the dog; (3) the photographs provided; and (4) the application provided. You represent and warrant that you are the legal owner of the dog in the photographs and the Application or that you have the right to submit the Application and photographs and enter into this agreement and to grant the rights hereunder. We reserve the right to adjust the photographs for printing, display and any other uses.

When submitting photographs, do not include the faces of children. You may only include photos of adults' faces with the adult's written consent.

Updated September 2026