

Employment opportunities

Animal trainers may work for animal welfare organisations such as RSPCA NSW, boarding kennels and training clubs. They may also work for government departments overseeing customs and quarantine, the NSW and Federal Police, and the Australian Defence Force. Most career opportunities are found in dog training through self-employed or in partnership with animal welfare organisations.

Day-to-day tasks

Attending community events to educate

Provide advice on responsible pet ownership

Conduct one on one consultations

Creating management and training plans and programs

Running group training classes for pets

Providing advice on health, nutrition and dog behaviour

Assisting owners with help from specialists

"I love talking to people about how they can help their animals, showing them new ways of doing things and learning new things myself every day." - Animal Trainer



Qualifications needed



Certificates

Cert. II in Animal Care
Cert. IV in Animal Behaviour and Training



Passionate about advocating for and providing compassionate care to animals



Practical Experience with animals at a local dog obedience club or working in kennels

Competition for jobs in the animal industry is very strong. Why not give yourself a step up by volunteering at RSPCA NSW?

Visit [rspcansw.org.au/get-involved/become-a-volunteer](https://www.rspcansw.org.au/get-involved/become-a-volunteer) to find out more.

Or check out our current jobs on offer

<https://www.rspcansw.org.au/who-we-are/careers-at-rspca-nsw/>

A week in the life of an RSPCA NSW Animal Trainer

ANIMAL TRAINER

Week Days



Being a pet trainer is not a nine to five, Monday to Friday job. You often need to fit it in around other employment schedules.



M: You attend a local community fair to educate people about animal care, and the benefits of desexing and training their animals. Its a great opportunity to book in private consults for those who need extra help.



T: You run two Puppy Preschool Classes on Tuesdays: Baby Puppy Class (eight to 16 weeks old) and Senior Puppy Class (16 to 24 weeks). Here puppies are taught basic manners, how to walk on a lead and mat settling.



W: You hold private consultations with the pet owners. This can include talking to owners about how to best interact with their dogs, teaching them how to train their dogs and setting a training program in place.



T: Senior Puppy Class time. Similar to the Baby Puppy Class, you teach dog owners the basics of responsible pet ownership, dog nutrition, how dogs learn and enrichment strategies.

Weekend



S: On Saturdays you run Adult Dog Classes. These are similar to puppy classes and are usually for dogs more than a year old, although puppies six months and older can attend.



These classes are for people and their dogs who may not have attended puppy classes and need to learn the basics, or who simply enjoy the training these classes provide.



S: Today you're helping out at an RSPCA NSW community event. Today, you're speaking to the public about RSPCA NSW's Chain Exchange program.



This program is an initiative for dog owners to change their dogs' check chains for a flat collar. It is also a chance to chat with the general public about alternate positive training methods to help promote animal welfare.