

	<p>APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN</p> <p>FOR THE 2026 UD OBEDIENCE JUDGES TRAINING COURSE</p> <p>CLOSING DATE 29 JANUARY 2026</p>
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A course for aspirant Utility Dog (UD) Obedience Judges will be run in 2026 by DOGS ACT.

Applications for a place on the Obedience Judges course should be submitted to DOGS ACT **by close of business on 29 January 2026** on the approved application form which can be downloaded from the DOGS ACT website or obtained from the DOGS ACT Office during advertised opening hours.

There is a course fee of **\$65** which should be paid at the time of submission of the application form.

The course is expected to commence in the week beginning 3 March 2026 and finish in late October/early November with written theory and practical examinations, or earlier depending upon the progress of the aspirant.

The course will cover the UD class.

Details of the course syllabus and timetable will be issued to approved applicants.

To be accepted on the course, applicants must:

- (i) have been a member of either DOGS ACT or another Member Body of the ANKC for at least three (3) years prior to the application and be a current financial member of DOGS ACT.
- (ii) be at least eighteen (18) years of age.
- (iii) be a resident of the ACT.
- (iv) be able to demonstrate skills and experience in instructing in Obedience at a DOGS ACT affiliated Club or at a Club affiliated with another Member Body and/or active participation in Obedience trials including as an steward, organizer or other official and/or have experience in related club or training activities, whether in Obedience or another related ANKC discipline in the two (2) years prior to the application.
- (v) hold an ANKC Open Judge's licence and (i) have personally trained and trialed a dog in the Utility ring on at least three (3) occasions or (ii) have judged at least five (5) Open Obedience trials and, in the two (2) years preceding the date of the application, have stewarded in the Utility Dog ring on at least five (5) occasions at different trials.

Note: Dogs ACT may, at its absolute discretion, refuse to accept an application from a person who meets the above criteria if it considers that the person is not otherwise suitable to be approved as a judge. Aspirants not admitted to the course will receive a full refund.

Enquiries to Charlie Giles on 0417 208 766 (before 9pm)