



GRINRESCUE

🐾 GOLDEN RETRIEVERS IN NEED 🐾

GRIN Operating Policy: Fencing

Purpose

To define the fencing requirements for adopters to adopt a dog from GRIN.

Policy

Dogs that come into rescue organizations have different backgrounds and experiences. Many rescue dogs are “runners” by nature and many dogs don’t even know their names when they go into foster or adoptive homes. All dogs can act on instinct and run off without proper containment, training and supervision. GRIN’s top priority is the safety and well-being of every dog in our care.

For many of our dogs, especially those with histories of trauma, fear, or unfamiliarity with home environments, a secure, **physically fenced yard** is a critical safety requirement.

Traditional Fencing To adopt a dog that is **a flight risk** the applicant’s yard **must** be surrounded by fencing that attaches to the house so that the dog can be let out directly into the yard from the home with plenty of room for the dog to run and play. The fencing must be at least 4-feet high, sturdy and made of chain link, vinyl (excluding rail fencing with or without wire screening) or board-on-board wood. All gates need to be functioning properly. The fence must open into the yard from one of the doors leading to the outside.

GRIN recognizes that in certain cases, a home without a traditional fence may still provide a safe, loving environment — and we evaluate those situations **on a case-by-case basis**.

Invisible Fencing In some cases, GRIN allows invisible fence systems **that have been professionally installed and have static boundaries** that cannot be moved or modified.

These must meet all the following conditions:

- Must be a **GRIN-approved brand**: *Invisible Fence*, *PetSafe*, *Pittsburgh Pet Fence*, or *Doglok*.
- **Wireless invisible fences**, such as *Halo* and *RadioFence*, are **not approved** due to safety concerns.
- A **professional training package** must be purchased and completed to ensure the dog is safely and effectively trained on the system.



GRINRESCUE

🐾 GOLDEN RETRIEVERS IN NEED 🐾

If the applicant intends to fence the yard GRIN will need a copy of an invoice showing that the applicant has made a (refundable) down payment on the fencing and training/support package (for electric fencing) before we can conduct the home visit step of the approval process. If the applicant then successfully completes Phase I of the approval process, they will be able to have a meet and greet with a dog. The fencing will have to be in place before an adoption is finalized.

In certain instances, a fence MIGHT not be required:— but only if all the following apply:

- The dog has been assessed by our team as **low flight risk** (not skittish, fearful, or a door-bolter).
- The adopter has a **proven plan** for safe containment, exercise, and supervision.
- The adopter has **experience with the breed** (or similar dogs) and successfully managed dogs without a fence.
- The home environment (urban, suburban, or rural) is deemed **safe and appropriate** for the specific dog.
- However, we recognize that in certain cases, a home without a traditional fence may still provide a safe, loving environment — and we evaluate those situations **on a case-by-case basis**.

Most GRIN dogs **do require a physical fence**, and homes without one will only be approved in exceptional cases. GRIN makes all final decisions based on **the individual dog's needs and safety**.

Board/Membership Approval Date: July 7, 2025

Membership Revision Approval Date: August 9, 2025