

Emotional Support Animal Policy for Residents

Effective October 22, 2014



This policy applies to residents who have received approval from the Office of Disability Support Services for an accommodation to have an emotional support animal in the residence hall. An emotional support animal (ESA) is a companion animal that provides therapeutic benefit, such as alleviating or mitigating some symptoms of the disability, to an individual with a mental or psychiatric disability. An emotional support animal is not a service animal as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act. The resident is responsible for all aspects of the animal and must provide the appropriate documentation prior to bringing the animal on campus.

Complaints regarding the animal will be brought to the Residence Life Office, which will attempt to mediate the concerns. If Residence Life Office believes the concern suggests a degree of accommodation that is not reasonable, it will refer the issue back to the Office of Disability Support Services.

Guidelines

- The resident is responsible for any damages and cleaning charges caused by the animal.
- The animal must be housebroken.
- The animal must be maintained in accordance with applicable state and local laws. Dogs and cats must wear current vaccination and identification tags at all times.
- The animal must be up to date on vaccinations and proof of vaccinations and registration must be provided to the Director of Residence Life.
 - Vaccinations for cats must include: Rabies, Feline Leukemia and distemper
 - Vaccinations for dogs must include: Rabies, Lyme's disease, Parvo, Distemper, and Bordetella
 - Vaccinations for other animals will be required as appropriate for the species.
- The resident is required to be present to handle the animal when University personnel or contractors are in the living space doing work.
- Animal signage must be displayed that indicates an animal lives in the room so that personnel from facilities, SUPD, other officials and individuals are made aware of the animal's presence.
- The resident should consider spaying or neutering of all animals; if a female service animal gives birth, the off-spring may not be kept on campus under any circumstance.
- The resident is responsible for finding appropriate care for the animal during the resident's absence. If a caretaker is not available to provide appropriate care, the animal must be removed from campus for the duration of the owner's absence. All voiding by the animal must occur outside the residence building or in an appropriate containment device which precludes any waste from getting onto floors or other surfaces.

Please initial _____

- Going into and out of the apartment and/or building, the animal must be on a leash and/or in an appropriate animal travel carrier and under control. The animal may not be taken off the leash at any time on University property except within the resident's room.
- The animal must stay in the resident's room and should not enter the common area of the building except to enter and exit the building unless prior permission has been received from the Director of Residence Life.
- The resident shall be fully and solely responsible for disposal of all animal waste both inside and outside of the residence hall. All animal waste will be placed in a plastic bag, removed from the residence or University grounds and placed in outside garbage bins. Cleanup and removal of waste as described in this subsection must occur immediately.

The Director of Residence Life reserves the right to exclude any animal from housing in cases including: immediate threat to the health and safety of others, concerns as to animal care, aggressive or uncontrolled behavior, nuisance or disruption of the community or learning environment. The decision to exclude any animal from housing will be subject to final review with the Office of Disability Support Services. Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in disciplinary actions for the resident including, but not limited to removal of the animal. If a resident is willfully dishonest with staff regarding the compliance with these guidelines, such dishonesty will be addressed under general provisions of student misconduct.

This policy may be amended as deemed appropriate by the Director of Residence Life, in conjunction with the Coordinator of Disability Support Services. Policy changes will be communicated in a timely manner.

Type of animal: _____

Breed (if applies): _____

Name of animal: _____

My signature below confirms my receipt of this policy and it acknowledges my responsibilities stated herein.

Student Name (printed)

Date

Student Signature