

Board Policies

ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS

145.00 PETS/ANIMALS AND COLLEGE FACILITIES POLICY

Pets and/or other animals are prohibited from all college facilities except:

1. Animals used for teaching with prior approval of the Chief Academic Officer.
2. Service animals assisting an individual with a disability.
3. Approved emotional support animals (residence rooms only).
4. Animals used by law enforcement or search and rescue.

For purposes of this policy, a service animal is a dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, and an emotional support animal is any animal that provides emotional support alleviating one or more symptoms or effects of a person's disability. Where it is not readily apparent that an animal is a service animal or emotional support animal, the College may ask if the animal is required because of a disability and what work or task the animal has been trained to perform.

Individuals requesting an emotional support animal as an accommodation must register with the Student Accessibility Coordinator and complete all necessary documentation. The College may exclude an animal if the animal is 1) not housebroken, 2) poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others that cannot be eliminated or reduced to an acceptable level by a reasonable accommodation, 3) is out of control and the individual does not take effective action to control it, 4) would fundamentally alter the nature of a program or activity, or 5) is not being cared for by the individual. The College may impose charges for damages caused by a service animal or emotional support animal in the same manner as the College imposes charges for damages to property.

The College is not responsible for the care or supervision of a service animal or emotional support animal. Individuals with disabilities are responsible for the control of their animals at all times and for ensuring the immediate clean-up and proper disposal of all animal waste. Individuals with service animals or emotional support animals must comply with all applicable laws and regulations including vaccination, licensure, animal health and leash laws, unless these devices interfere with the service animal's work or the individual's disability prevents using these devices.

This policy does not affect reasonable accommodation requests or limit the broader definition of "assistance animal" under the Fair Housing Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

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