

Animal Use and Presence at CCC Facilities and Events Policy

Service animals may accompany students, employees, and visitors with disabilities to all Central Community College (CCC) events, activities, and locations. Local, state and federal laws regulate the use of service animals at CCC locations and/or events. Animals associated with a college-related program of study (e.g., livestock) or research laboratory activity are allowed. Specific procedures related to animal use and presence at CCC facilities and events can be found below.

Animal Use and Presence Procedures

Definitions

- **Service Animal** - A ~~bona-fide~~ service animal is any breed and any size of dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of a person with a disability (Americans with Disabilities Act, 28 C.F.R. § 35.136).
- **Emotional Support Animal (ESA)** - A emotional support animal is an animal that provides therapeutic emotional support to a person diagnosed with a mental health disability. An ESA does not assist an individual with a disability in the activities of daily living and generally does not accompany a person with a disability all the time.
- **Therapy Animal** - Therapy animals are defined as animals that provide emotional support and comfort to individuals, particularly in therapeutic or clinical settings. They are not specifically trained to perform tasks related to a disability. Their primary role is to enhance the well-being of individuals through interaction.
- **Pet** - A domesticated animal (e.g., dog, cat, ferret, snake, bird, etc.) kept for pleasure or companionship.
- **Handler** - A person with a service or therapy animal, or pet.
- **Responsible Administrator** - 504 Coordinator or Disability Services Director.

Pets and Therapy Animals at CCC Facilities and Events

Pets and therapy animals are generally not permitted in college facilities or at CCC events. Requests for exceptions to this general rule must be submitted to the responsible administrator prior to the event/activity and will be reviewed/decided on a case-by-case basis. Requests for Emotional Support Animals for residential students must be submitted to CCC Disability Services.

Requirements for all Animals and/or their ~~Partners~~/Handlers

- **Vaccination:** The animal must be immunized against diseases common to that type of animal. Other animals must have had the appropriate vaccination series for the type of animal.
- **Health:** The animal must be in good health.
- **Under Control of Handler:** The handler must be in full control of the animal, at all times.

Cleanup Rule

The handler must clean up after the animal, including proper disposal of voided waste. Persons with disabilities who physically cannot clean up after their own service animal will not be required to do so. However, these individuals are to notify the appropriate person for the event/program of this circumstance when necessary.

When an Animal Can Be Removed

Service/emotional support animals, therapy animals, and pets may be removed or restricted at a CCC location or event for reasons of disruption, health, uncleanness, and safety. For example, a partner/handler will be asked to remove the animal from the college facility or event if the animal is ill and/or when that animal's behavior poses a direct threat to the health or safety of other persons and/or animals.

Areas Off-Limits to Animals

The College may restrict the use of service animals in certain locations when their presence would fundamentally alter the nature of the service, program, or activity, or where the animal poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others. Requests for exceptions to this restriction must be submitted to the responsible administrator and will be reviewed/decided on a case-by-case basis.