



SERVICE ANIMALS

A Service Animal is any dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of individuals with physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other health conditions. Miniature horses and dogs in training are also covered under the ADA and Florida Statute.



EMOTIONAL SUPPORT & THERAPY ANIMALS

Emotional Support Animals (ESAs), commonly referred to as comfort or therapy animals, are not considered Service Animals because they have not been trained to perform a specific task related to a person's disability. ESAs are only allowed in housing when emotional support cannot be met in any other way.

BASIC ETIQUETTE



- 🐾 **DON'T pet the animal** - this deters it from doing its job
- 🐾 **DON'T feed the animal** - treats are praise and the handler praises the animal
- 🐾 **DON'T distract the animal** - this can result in the handler being hurt
- 🐾 **DON'T interfere** - the animal must pay attention to the handler at work
- 🐾 **DON'T make loud sounds** - this can confuse, startle, or cause a false alert
- 🐾 **DON'T attempt to control or take leash from handler** - the handler is the leader, not you

DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER

FIU GUIDELINES FOR SERVICE AND EMOTIONAL SUPPORT ANIMALS ON CAMPUS

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in all housing programs and activities that are either conducted by the federal government or receive federal financial assistance.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Amendments Act of 2008 states the ADA is a civil rights law that prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in all areas of public life, including jobs and school.

The Fair Housing Act requires housing providers to make reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities.

QUESTIONS ALLOWED BY ADA REGULATIONS IF IT IS NOT OBVIOUS WHAT A SERVICE ANIMAL PROVIDES:

- 🐾 Is this dog a service animal required because of a disability?
- 🐾 What work or task has the dog been trained to perform?

You cannot ask about the person's disability, or request medical documentation, special identification card, or training documentation for the animal. You also cannot ask for a demonstration of the behavior the animal does.



USEFUL LINKS

DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER
drc.fiu.edu

HOUSING AND RESIDENTIAL LIFE
housing.fiu.edu

OFFICE OF INCLUSION, DIVERSITY, EQUITY & ACCESS (IDEA)
diversity.fiu.edu

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS
www2.ed.gov/ocr

CAMPUS ACCESS



Emotional Support Animals are not allowed in classrooms or in public places on campus. ESAs are only allowed in Housing with immediate access to outdoor areas from residence halls. This does not include common areas such as group rooms and laundry rooms, among others.



Service Animals must be allowed in any area/facility where the public is normally allowed to go (i.e. classrooms, library, and dining halls).

Although vests are optional, Service Animals must be kept on a leash and under control when the animal is in a public area.

Documentation of one's disability or service animal training is not required before allowing public access unless campus housing is being requested. Students with ESAs and Service Animals must register and have the accommodation approved by DRC and Housing if they wish to reside with their animal on campus.

NEED HELP?



CONNECT WITH US

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