

Disability-Related Animals on Campus

This document is designed to provide the campus community with a working knowledge of the University's guidelines on disability-related animals on campus. If you have questions, please contact the Office of Accessibility (OA): OA_Team@winthrop.edu (803) 323-3290.

	Service Animal	Emotional Support Animal (ESA)	Service Animal In Training
Purpose	Trained* to provide an <u>active</u> task (e.g. environment navigation) that mitigates impact of handler's disability).	Provide <u>passive</u> support (e.g. handler's relationship with animal) to mitigate impact of handler's psychiatric disability.	In progress of training* to provide an active task (e.g. environment navigation that mitigates impact of handlers disability)
Species Restrictions	Dogs (or rarely, miniature horses).	Species deemed safe for the environment and community.	Dogs (or rarely, miniature horses).
Requirements for Handler to Submit Request for University Approval	No approval, request, documentation, nor proof of training is required if the animal is not living on campus, or to be with the animal in public areas. If a service animal's role is not apparent, you can ask the handler: (1) "Is that a service animal for a disability?" and (2) "What service does it perform for you?"	Handler must make request for a reasonable accommodation. This request requires the handler to provide the University supporting documentation from a medical professional (see full policy for details).	No approval, request, documentation nor proof of training is required if the animal is not living on campus, or to be with the animal in public areas. If a service animal's role is not apparent, you can ask the handler: (1) "Is that a service animal for a disability?" and (2) "What service does it perform for you?"
Environments Accessible to Animal	Generally anywhere their handlers are permitted on campus (exceptions may exist for health/safety); if a concern, consult with OA staff.	Specific campus areas, after University approval. This is typically limited to the handler's housing facility , but does not preclude requests for other areas on campus.	Generally anywhere their handlers are permitted on campus (exceptions may exist for health/safety); Within the residence hall they are considered an ESA until fully trained; if a concern, consult with OA staff.
Behavior Expectations	All animals are the responsibility of their handlers and should be under their control and housebroken. An animal's behavior is considered the handler's behavior; the animal will be held to the same basic standard of conduct as their handlers. If they are disruptive to university business or community behavioral expectations, handlers can be asked to correct the animal's behavior or remove it from the environment.		

*Service Animals in Training are not recognized under the Americans with Disabilities Act, however they are recognized by the state of South Carolina as Service Animals. According to state statute (1) 'service-animal-in-training' means an animal accompanying a trainer of a service animal while the animal is being trained as a service animal, and (2) trainer of a service animal' means a person who individually trains a service animal. Service Animals in Training must be under control. Typically, puppy rearing, socialization and general obedience training is not considered Service Animal training.