Service Animals

A Service Animal can be a dog or miniature horse that is individually trained to do work or perform a task for an individual with a disability, including physical, sensory, or other disability. The work or tasks performed by the Service Animal must be directly related to the individual’s disability. No other type of animal is considered a Service Animal, as defined by the ADAAA. A Service Dog identification vest or harness is not required. Additionally, there are no breed-restrictions when it comes to Service Dogs, regardless of state or local regulations regarding breeds. To read more, please visit the CAE Accommodations page.

HANDLER’S RESPONSIBILITIES

1. A service animal must be housebroken (i.e., trained so that it controls its waste elimination, absent illness or accident) and must be kept under control at all times by a harness, leash, or other tether, unless the person is unable to hold those, or such use would interfere with the service animal’s performance of work or tasks. In such instances, the service animal must be kept under control by voice, signals, or other effective means.

2. Service animals generally should accompany their handler at all times so that the dog can provide the service it is trained to perform.

3. The handler is financially responsible for any damage (including but not limited to medical expenses or cleaning costs) to persons or property caused by their service animal.

GUIDELINES FOR MEMBERS OF THE UCLA COMMUNITY

To ensure equal access and nondiscrimination of our community members with disabilities, members of the UCLA community must abide by the following practices:

1. Allow service animals to accompany people with disabilities on campus;

2. Do not ask for details about a person’s disabilities;

3. Do not pet a service animal, as it distracts the animal from its work;

4. Do not feed a service animal;

5. Do not deliberately startle, tease, or taunt a service animal; and

6. Do not separate or attempt to separate a person from their service animal.

If a member of the UCLA community has a disability that may be affected by the presence of animals, please contact the Center for Accessible Education (CAE) office. CAE is committed to ensuring that the needs of all people with disabilities are met and will determine how to resolve any conflicts or problems as expeditiously as possible.

Sources: Occidental College, Service Animal Policy; ADA Service Animals and Emotional Support Animals