

# Champlain College Service Animal Policy

## Service Animals

A Service Animal is defined under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) as any dog (or in some cases, a miniature horse) that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability. The work or task must be directly related to the person's disability. The provision of emotional support, well-being, comfort, or companionship does not constitute work or tasks for the purposes of this definition (see "Assistance Animals," below). Service Animals in training who are with a member of the College community who has a disability, and with whom the animal will be working as a Service Animal, are provided the same rights as Service Animals under this policy.

Faculty, Staff and Students with Service Animals are permitted generally to bring their Service Animals in all areas of a place of public accommodation, such as classrooms, residence halls (including the private residence assigned to the student), activities and events, and dining facilities. However, Service Animals are not permitted if they pose a direct threat to health or safety, if their presence constitutes a fundamental alteration to the nature of a program or service, if they cannot effectively be controlled, or if they are not housebroken.

Faculty and staff planning to bring a Service Animal to campus are encouraged to contact the Employment Manager. Students planning to bring a Service Animal to campus are encouraged to work closely with the Counseling Center and Accommodation Service (CAS) office. Students intending to keep a Service Animal in a residence hall must submit a request to CAS at least 30 days in advance on a form obtained from CAS. CAS may ask the student if the animal is required because of a disability, and what work or task the animal has been trained to perform, but will not ask about the nature of the student's disability for this purpose. CAS will not require documentation about the training of the Service Animal.

Faculty, Staff and Students are encouraged to provide identification that the animal is a Service Animal so that others are aware it is a working animal.

### Requirements of Service Animals, Assistance Animals and their owners include:

The owner of the animal must be in full control of the animal at all times.

Animals must be licensed in accordance with city regulations and, if appropriate, must wear a valid vaccination tag.

Animals must be in good health. Any service/assistance animals occupying college housing must have an annual clean bill of health from a licensed veterinarian.

Service Animals should wear some type of easily recognized identification symbol (i.e., harness, backpack).

Students will provide documentation of the continuing need for the assistance animal on an annual basis.

The owner is responsible for appropriate waste clean-up and overall cleanliness of the animal.

The owner is responsible for the appropriate management of his or her animal in all College facilities. Disruptive and/or aggressive behavior on the part of the animal may result in the owner being asked to remove the animal from College facilities.

The owner is responsible for any property damage or personal injury caused by the animal, or pest control (i.e. flea treatment) required because of the animal.

### Etiquette with Service Animals and Assistance Animals

Do not pet a Service Animal or Assistance Animal without permission of the owner; petting a Service Animal when the animal is working distracts the animal from the task at hand. Service dogs typically wear a leather harness, scarf or sign to indicate they are working animals.

Do not feed a Service Animal or Assistance Animal. The animal may have specific dietary requirements.

Do not deliberately startle a Service Animal or Assistance Animal.

Do not separate or attempt to separate an owner from her or his Service Animal or Assistance Animal.

Allow a service animal to accompany the owner at all times and everywhere on campus except where service animals are specifically prohibited. Assistance animals are not afforded this right, and may only be present in the student's housing if approved by CAS.

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