Emotional Support Animals

There is a specific form that you may obtain from the SAR office for your medical or mental health provider to fill out. You may submit that form with your application for services. This documentation allows the following determination to be made:

- That the individual has a disability for which the animal is needed
- The animal is necessary to allow the individual an equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling
- There is an identifiable relationship between the disability and the assistance the animal provides
- An established therapeutic relationship exists between the provider and the student.

Emotional Support Animals need no specific training, but must be registered with the Student Accessibility and Resources Office when living in any campus owned housing. Documentation prescribing the need for an ESA must be provided to the SAR Office. The provider of the prescription/supporting documentation must be a licensed professional who is knowledgeable about the difference between an ESA and a service animal and the therapeutic benefits and rationale for an ESA and cannot be a family member. A good match between the qualifications of the person making the diagnosis and the condition is expected. The provider must also be able to show an established treatment relationship with the student.

**An “internet” certificate is not needed or accepted as the sole supporting documentation.**

ESAs provide comfort for the owner. They are not allowed in any building on campus other than the owner’s personal residence. ESAs are subject to all city and/or county ordinances including vaccination, licensure, animal health and leash laws, as well as the University’s rules regarding leash provisions, animal waste cleanup, and community relationships.

Animals can be removed from campus and/or campus housing if:

- The animal is not housebroken’
• The animal causes substantial physical damage to the property of others or University facilities;
• The animal poses a direct threat to the health and safety of others;
• The animal is not under the control of the owner at all times;
• Animal waste is not cleaned up immediately by the owner – inside residence and on campus grounds;
• The animal’s vaccinations are not kept updated;
• The animal is left unattended anywhere on campus, including the dorm room and/or housing facilities in contravention of Housing’s Animal Policies. (Note: emotional support dogs must be crated in dorm/student’s own housing when student is in class or absent from the living quarters).