

CAMERON UNIVERSITY

Service and Assistance Animal Policy

Policy Statement

Cameron University is committed to compliance with state and federal laws regarding individuals with disabilities.

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Who Should Know This Policy

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| √ President | √ Faculty |
| √ Vice Presidents | √ Other Accounting/Finance Personnel |
| √ Deans | √ Students |
| √ Department Chairs | Other Groups |
| √ Directors | √ All Employees |
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Responsibilities

Responsible for Policy

University Officer Responsible
Zeak Naifeh

Dean of Students

Procedure

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: Cameron University is committed to compliance with state and federal laws regarding individuals with disabilities. Individuals with disabilities may be accompanied by their service animals on all CU campuses where members of the public or participants in services, programs or activities are allowed to go. Questions should be directed to the CU Office of Student Development. If requesting an assistance animal for on-campus housing, the student will need to sign an Assistance Animal agreement with Student Housing as part of their contract. Where it is not readily apparent that an animal is a service animal, CU may inquire whether the dog is required because of a disability and what work or tasks the dog has been trained to perform.

1.0 Service Animals Permitted on Campus

Service animals are permitted on all CU campuses where members of the public or participants in services, programs, or activities are allowed to go. By law, a service animal means 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, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. Other species of animals, whether wild or domestic, trained or untrained, are not service animals.

The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the individual's disability. Examples of such tasks include, but are not limited to: assisting an individual with low vision with navigation; alerting individuals who are hard of hearing to the presence of people or objects; pulling a person's wheelchair; or providing assistance with stability or balance to an individual with a mobility disability.

Federal law does not require the individual to provide documentation that an animal has been trained as a service animal.

1.1 Exceptions

CU may exclude a service animal from campus if its behavior poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others or when its presence fundamentally alters the nature of a program or activity. Furthermore, CU may ask an individual with a disability to remove a service animal from campus if the animal is out of control and the individual does not take effective action to control it; or if the animal is not housebroken.

1.2 Responsibilities of Individuals with Service Animals

CU is not responsible for the care or supervision of a service animal. Individuals with disabilities are responsible for the control of their service animals at all times and must comply with all applicable laws and regulations, including vaccination, licensure, animal health and leash laws. A service animal shall be restrained with a harness, leash, or other tether, unless an individual's disability precludes the use of a restraint or if the restraint would interfere with the service animal's safe, effective performance of work or tasks. If a service animal is not tethered, it must be otherwise under the individual's control, whether by voice control, signals, or other effective means.

Individuals are responsible for ensuring the immediate clean-up and proper disposal of all animal waste. Although CU may not charge an individual with a disability a service animal surcharge,

it may impose charges for damages caused by a service animal in the same manner the CU imposes charges for damages caused by pets.

2.0 Assistance Animals in Student Housing

Federal law allows individuals with disabilities the presence of a broader range of animals ("assistance animals") in Cameron housing as compared with the campus as a whole. See the Assistance Animals Policy for Residents Living in Student Housing procedure for more information relating to Assistance Animals.

Contacts

Policy Questions: Zeak Naifeh, Dean of Students, (580) 581-2244

Forms

In support of this policy, the following forms are included:

None

Policy History

Policy

Issue Date: August 8, 2014
Reviewed, no revision: February 2016
Revised: September 23, 2015