

## PROCEDURE 2.15.0: SERVICE ANIMALS

Sandburg makes every reasonable effort to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) as amended in 2008, and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. As such, the college follows these procedures regarding animals on campus:

### Service animals

A service animal under ADA titles II and III (see [§ 35.136](#)) is defined as: A dog or miniature horse individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities. The service animal's work must be directly related to the individual's disability. Service animals have access to areas on campus generally open to the public.

Service animal handlers must:

- Keep the animal(s) under control, keeping them on a leash, harness or tether unless doing so interferes with the animal's ability to perform their work. In those circumstances, voice commands, hand signals or other effective means may be used to maintain control of the animal.
- Ensure the service animal is housebroken.
- Ensure the animal is taken outside to relieve itself and to dispose of waste material appropriately.

The handler must remove a service animal from campus when:

- The animal isn't under the handler's control.
- The animal isn't housebroken.
- The animal has been identified as posing a safety risk to others.

### Miniature horse specifications and requirements

- Miniature horses generally range in height from 24 inches to 34 inches measured to the shoulders.
- Miniature horses generally weigh between 70 and 100 pounds.
- Four assessment factors help determine whether miniature horses can be accommodated at the college campus/classrooms.
- The miniature horse must:
  1. Be housebroken.
  2. Be under the owner's control.
  3. Be of a type, size and weight the college campus/classrooms can accommodate.
  4. Not compromise legitimate safety requirements necessary for safe operation of the college campus/classrooms.

## Non-service animals

Emotional, support, comfort or therapy animals are **not** service animals under Title II and Title III of the ADA and aren't permitted on campus. (See [Title III Part 36 definitions](#).) Non-service animals are often used to ameliorate stress or provide comfort to others and aren't limited to individuals with disabilities. Although some animals are part of a medical therapy plan, a doctor's letter or therapy plan does **not** certify an animal as a service animal.

Organizations or individuals who wish to feature or promote a non-service animal program in connection with a campus-sponsored event should contact Public Safety at 309.341.5304 for further information and guidelines. Non-service animals aren't guaranteed access to public areas under the law, and if allowed on campus, they may be restricted to designated areas.

For more information on how the ADA applies to service animals, see the following links:

- [Americans with Disabilities Act Summary of Requirements for Service Animals](#)
- [Americans with Disabilities Act Title II Regulations](#)
- [Americans with Disabilities Act Title III Regulations](#)

## Classroom projects

Students who wish to bring a non-service animal, whether wild or domestic, trained or untrained, in for a classroom project or assignment, must receive prior approval from the chief safety officer. Call 309.341.5304 for additional information and to seek approval.

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