Carl Sandburg College makes every reasonable effort to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) as amended in 2008 and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. In compliance with these acts and in the best interest of the community it serves, Carl Sandburg College has instated the following policies regarding animals on campus.

## Service Animals

A service animal under ADA titles II and III (see <u>§ 35.136</u>) is defined as a dog or a miniature horse that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities. The service animal's work or task must be directly related to the individual's disability. Service animals have access to any area on campus that is generally open to the public.

Responsibilities of a service animal handler include:

- All animals must be under the handler's control. Animals must be kept on a leash, harness, or tether unless doing so would interfere with the animal's ability to perform their work or task. In those circumstances, the handler may use voice commands, hand signals or other effective means to maintain control of the animal.
- The service animal must be housebroken. It is the handler's sole responsibility to ensure that the animal is taken outside to relieve itself and to dispose of waste material appropriately.

A handler will be required to remove a service animal from campus under the following conditions:

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

Miniature horses generally range in height from 24 inches to 34 inches measured to the shoulders and generally weigh between 70 and 100 pounds. The regulations set out four assessment factors to assist entities in determining whether miniature horses can be accommodated in their facility. The assessment factors are (1) whether the miniature horse is housebroken; (2) whether the miniature horse is under the owner's control; (3) whether the facility can accommodate the miniature horse's type, size, and weight; and (4) whether the miniature horse's presence will not compromise legitimate safety requirements necessary for safe operation of the facility.

## Non-service Animals

Emotional, support, comfort, or therapy animals are not service animals under Title II and Title III of the ADA and are not permitted on campus (see <u>Title III Part 36 definitions</u>). Non-service animals are often used to ameliorate stress or provide comfort to others and are not limited to individuals with disabilities. Although some animals are part of a medical therapy plan, please note that a doctor's letter or therapy plan does not certify an animal as a service animal.

Organizations or individuals that wish to feature or promote a non-service animal program in connection with a campus-sponsored event should contact the Department of Public Safety at 309-341-5304 for further information and guidelines. Non-service animals are not guaranteed access to public areas under the law and if allowed on campus 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
- <u>Americans with Disabilities Act Title III Regulations</u>

## 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 Director of Public Safety. Students may call 309-341-5304 for additional information and to seek approval.