

## **Section 37 - ANIMALS ON CAMPUS**

### **37.2 DEFINITIONS**

The following definitions apply for the purposes of this policy:

- Wild animals are non-domesticated animals living in their natural habitat.
- Pets are animals sufficiently tame to live with a family and are kept and cared for as companions.
- Service animals are animals that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities. Examples of such work or tasks include guiding people who are blind, alerting people who are deaf, pulling a wheelchair, and alerting and protecting a person who is having a seizure, among others. Service animals are working animals, not pets.
- Support/comfort animals are animals that provide emotional or other support that ameliorates one or more identified symptoms or effects of a person's disability. Unlike service animals, support/comfort animals are not required to be trained to perform work or tasks.

### **37.5 SERVICE ANIMALS**

Pepperdine provides equal access and reasonable accommodation for individuals with disabilities to participate in any program, service, or opportunity provided by the University, and complies with applicable laws related to service animals.

Concerns about whether an animal is a pet or service animal should be reported to the Department of Public Safety.

Service animals are permitted to accompany people with disabilities in all areas of campus where community members and visitors are allowed to go. Exclusions of service animals are determined on an individualized basis and when one or more of the following conditions exists:

- The service animal is disruptive and not effectively controlled
- The service animal is not housebroken
- The presence of the service animal would fundamentally change the nature of the job, service, or activity
- The service animal's presence, behavior, or actions pose an unreasonable or direct threat to property and/or the health and safety of others (including inappropriate hygiene and cleanliness)

- The service animal may be in danger
- The service animal's presence may compromise the integrity of certain research

The University is not responsible for the care or supervision of service animals.

Individuals are responsible for:

- Complying with licensing requirements of Los Angeles County, as appropriate for the animal, with a copy of the license submitted to the Department of Public Safety and Disability Services (for students) or Human Resources (for employees)
- Following their veterinarian's care recommendations and vaccinations for the animal, with a copy of the health record submitted to the Department of Public Safety and Disability Services (for students) or Human Resources (for employees)
- The cost of any property damage or cost of extra cleaning due to the animal
- The control and reasonable behavior of the service animal at all times
- The service animal's appropriate hygiene and cleanliness
- The immediate clean-up and proper disposal of all animal waste

Service animals in training are allowed on campus in accordance with the above guidelines for service animals. Faculty, staff, and students should not bring service animals in training to the classroom, residence halls, or workplace.

If students are allergic to service animals on campus, they are encouraged to contact Disability Services to assist in resolving the issue. If faculty and staff are allergic to service animals on campus, they are encouraged to contact their supervisor and Human Resources to assist in resolving the issue. Disability Services and Human Resources will attempt to reasonably accommodate all parties.

Students should register their service animals with Disability Services. Employees may request the assistance of a service animal as a reasonable accommodation for their disability; such requests must be handled through Human Resources.

In the event of a dispute about an accommodation related to a service animal or an animal restriction, students are encouraged to attempt to resolve the issue with Disability Services. Students may also file a complaint in accordance with their school's student handbook. Faculty and staff are encouraged to attempt to resolve disputes with their supervisor and Human Resources. Employees may also file a complaint in accordance with section 29 of the University Policy Manual.

### **37.6 SUPPORT/COMFORT ANIMALS**

Support animals are not considered service animals under this policy or applicable law. Support animals are not permitted in University buildings, athletic fields, or designated gardens and must follow the guidelines for pets on campus. Support animals may be allowed in on-campus student residences when registered with and approved by Disability Services.

**\*\*\*Please note that the content above is an excerpt from the complete University Policy Manual which can be accessed at the link below:**

**<http://community.pepperdine.edu/hr/policies/policymanual.htm>**