



Assistance Animal Policy

If an animal does not qualify as a service or emotional support animal under the provisions of this policy, then in order for a student to live with the animal in University-owned housing it must qualify as a permissible pet under the University's pet policy (see <http://sites.jcu.edu/deanofstudents/pages/community-standards/residence-life-2>).

Statement of Purpose:

- To provide reasonable accommodations to students, employees and visitors with disabilities that give them the opportunity for equal access to educational programs, activities and services provided by the University via use of a service animal on campus or an emotional support animal in University housing. Reasonable accommodations will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

I. Definitions

- Disability: a mental or physical impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activity such as seeing, talking, walking, hearing, breathing, working and learning. (Americans with Disabilities Act 42 U.S.C. Section 12102, Fair Housing Act 42 U.S.C. Section 3602).
- Service Animal: a dog (or in rare cases a miniature horse) that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for a person with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual or other mental disability. Service animals do not include:
 - Animals other than a dog/minature horse;
 - Animals that serve solely to provide a crime deterrent effect; or,
 - Emotional support, comfort or companionship animals.
- Emotional Support Animal: an animal that provides emotional support that alleviates one or more identified symptoms or effects of a person's disability. These animals need not be specially trained, and may be of any species or breed unless otherwise prohibited by state or local ordinances.
- Reasonable Accommodation: a modification or adjustment to a policy, procedure, or practice provided to a qualified person with a disability to enable that person to participate in educational programs and activities, perform the essential functions of their job, access JCU facilities or events, or have equal access to University housing.

II. Service Animals

- Policy
 - The University will permit any student, employee, or visitor to use a service animal on campus in all areas of campus that are public accommodations, including inside academic or public buildings or residence halls.

