Animals on Campus



Reviewed/Updated Date: March 2019 Approved by: Administrative Council

Policy Statement

Donnelly College is committed to allowing students with disabilities the use of a service animal on campus to facilitate their full participation and equal access to the College's programs and activities.

A service animal, under the Americans with Disabilities Act as Amended (ADA), is defined as a dog (or miniature horse in certain circumstances) that has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for individuals with disabilities. Examples of work or tasks include guiding people who are blind, alerting people who are deaf, alerting and protecting a person who is having a seizure, or performing other duties. To qualify, the task must be directly related to a person's disability.

Service animals are welcome in all buildings on campus and may attend any class, meeting, or other event. Service animals must be housebroken and wear a vest, patch, or special harness identifying them as a service animal while on Donnelly College property. Donnelly College may prohibit the use of service animals in certain locations due to health or safety restrictions, where service animals may be in danger or out of control, or due to the presences of hazardous chemicals and/or organisms.

Students who use a service animal must contact the Dean's office, especially when the disability and the function of the dog are not obvious. Students may be asked if the service animal is required due to a disability and what work or task the animal is trained to perform.

Emotional Support Animals, or animals that have not been trained to perform a specific job or task, are not a service animal under the ADA. Animals that solely provide comfort may be identified by various other names including: a companion animal, assistance animal, comfort animal, or therapy animal. Donnelly College does not allow students to have emotional support animals on school property or in on-campus housing.