

Faculty Quick Resource - Service and Emotional Support Animals

Two questions to determine if a dog is a service animal (allowed in class) or emotional support animal (not allowed in class):

1) Is the dog a service animal required because of a disability? (asked in a yes or no format)

2) What work or task has the dog been trained to perform? Listen for a “recognition and response” type of task such as “alerts me to pre-seizure activity so I can get in a safe position,” “stands between me and others if I’m showing signs of a panic attack in public,” etc. It cannot be something the student has taught themselves to do (“I pet him when I get stressed”) or something the animal intuitively does without training.

If a dog causes a **disruption** (barking, wandering, displaying aggressive behavior) and the handler does not take immediate/effective action to stop it, faculty **may ask the student to remove the dog** from the classroom **regardless of the answers to the questions above**. Public Safety can assist if needed. The incident can also be reported to Student Conduct.

- A Tech ID for the animal does not mean it is allowed in class.
- Some students request a statement about their service animal be included in their accommodation letters, but we **cannot require students to register their service animal** with the University unless the student and the dog live on campus.
- We cannot ask about the type of disability the person has.
- There is no official training or certification list for service animals, so any documentation presented doesn’t override the allowed questions.
- We can never require an animal demonstrate their tasks.
- Some areas with inherent safety risks may be deemed off-limits for service animals- please request review by DS.

[ATU Service and Assistance Animal Policy](#)

Disability Services (479) 968-0302