



Service Animal Definition

A service animal is defined as any **dog** that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. (Other species of animals are not service animals for the purposes of this definition). Dogs whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support do not qualify as service animals under the ADA.

Work or Tasks

The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the handler's disability.

The following questions will be asked of the person who is accompanied by a service animal:

1. Is the dog a service animal required because of a disability?
2. What work or task has the dog been trained to perform?

The college will not make these inquiries about a service animal when it is readily apparent that an animal is trained to do work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability.

Control

A service animal must be under the control of the handler at all times. The college reserves the right to remove a service animal from the premises if:

- The animal is out of control and the animal's handler does not take effective action to control it
- The animal is not housebroken
- The presence of the animal constitutes a fundamental alteration to the nature of the service, program, or activity of the college

If the college properly excludes a service animal it shall give the individual with a disability the opportunity to participate in the service, program, or activity without having the service animal on the premises. Effective alternatives will be examined with the student to accommodate access. The college is not responsible for the care or supervision of a service animal.

This guideline is adapted from The Federal Register, Sept. 15, 2010, "Guidance on Revisions to ADA Regulation on Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability in State and Local Government Services," Sec. 35.136 Service animals. and Section-By-Section Analysis and Response to Public Comments, pages 56192-56195.