

POLICY

Service Animals assisting individuals with disabilities are generally permitted in all PAFA facilities and programs, except as described below.

DEFINITIONS

Disability: A physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, a record of such impairment or being regarded as having such an impairment.

Service Animal: Dogs that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with one or more disabilities, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. Such tasks include without limitation, and by way of examples only, guiding people who are blind, alerting people who are deaf, providing non-violent protection or rescue work, pulling a wheelchair, alerting and protecting a person who is having a seizure, alerting individuals to the presence of allergens, retrieving items such as medicine or the telephone, providing physical support and assistance with balance and stability to individuals with mobility disabilities, and helping persons with psychiatric and neurological disabilities by preventing or interrupting impulsive or destructive behaviors. Service Animals are working animals, not pets.

The work or task a Service Animal has been trained to provide must be directly related to the person's disability.

Under particular circumstances and conditions set forth in 28 CFR § 35.136, a miniature horse may also qualify as a Service Animal.

Dogs or other animals whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support or crime deterrence, and that do not work or perform tasks for an individual with one or more disabilities, are not Service Animals.

Owner: The member of the PAFA community with a disability who has a Service Animal.

USING A SERVICE ANIMAL AT PAFA

Students

Students with disabilities who desire to use a Service Animal on campus, including in classrooms, are encouraged, but not required, to contact the Dean of Students.

REQUIREMENTS FOR SERVICE ANIMALS

Service Animals must comply with all applicable Pennsylvania dog laws.

Leash: Service Animals must be on a leash at all times, unless the leash would inhibit the animal's ability to be of service.

Care and Supervision: The care and supervision of a Service Animal is solely the responsibility of owner/keeper, who is required to maintain control of the Service Animal at all times.

Cleanup Rule: The owner/keeper of a Service Animal must ensure cleaning up of any PAFA property that the animal might soil.

Service Animal Health and Well-Being: Service Animals must be immunized against diseases, should be in good health, and should be under the care of a licensed veterinarian. Local licensing requirements must be followed.

Damage: Owners of Service Animals are solely responsible for any damage to persons or property caused by their animals.

Service Dogs in Training: Under Pennsylvania law, individuals with disabilities who use guide or Support Animals, or trainers of such animals, are entitled to equal opportunity in all aspects of employment and education, as well as equal access to and treatment in all public accommodations, and any housing accommodation or commercial property without discrimination. Violation of this law may result in an award of damages or other remedies pursuant to the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act. 43 P.S. § 953.

WHEN SERVICE ANIMALS MAY BE REMOVED OR PROHIBITED FROM A FACILITY OR PROGRAM

PAFA reserves the right to exclude or remove any Service Animal that poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others or creates an unreasonable and unmanageable disturbance to the community.

Service Animals may also be excluded in areas where the presence of a Service Animal fundamentally alters the nature of a program or activity, or because of health and safety restrictions (for example, where the animals may be in danger). Examples may include, but are not limited to: areas requiring protective clothing, classrooms with demonstration animals, and food preparation areas.

An owner's failure to adhere to this policy may also result in removal or exclusion of a Service Animal.

Questions related to the use of Service Animals on campus should be directed to the Dean of Students.

REQUIREMENTS FOR FACULTY, STAFF, STUDENTS AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE PAFA COMMUNITY

- You must allow a Service Animal to accompany its owner at all times and in all places on campus, except where specifically prohibited (please see “When Service Animals May Be Removed or Prohibited from a Facility or Program”).
- You must not touch or pet a Service Animal.
- You must not feed a Service Animal.
- You must not deliberately startle or otherwise taunt a Service Animal.
- You must not separate or attempt to separate an owner from the owner's Service Animal.
- You must not inquire regarding the nature of the owner's disability.

CONFLICTING HEALTH CONDITIONS

Students with medical conditions that are affected by animals (such as respiratory diseases, asthma or severe allergies) are asked to contact the Dean of Students if they have a health-related concern about exposure to a Service Animal.