

# EMOTIONAL SUPPORT AND SERVICE ANIMALS

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**Approved by:** Instructional Services

**History:**

**Related Policies:**

**Related Forms, Procedures and References:** Accessibility Services for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.alverno.edu/Instructional-Services-Accessibility/>)

**For Questions Contact:** Instructional Services | 414.382.6223 | [studentaccessibility@alverno.edu](mailto:studentaccessibility@alverno.edu) (<https://catalog.alverno.edu/collegepolicies/studentnon-academicpolicies/esa-animals/studentaccessibility@alverno.edu>)

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Pets and other animals are prohibited in all Alverno College buildings, with the exception of service animals and emotional support animals that have been approved by the Student Accessibility Coordinator (see Instructional Services) in accordance with federal law and the College's policy. Emotional Support and Service Animals prescribed by a licensed provider and documented and maintained in agreement with the college's policies will be accommodated to the best of our ability.

## Definitions

**Service Animal:** A service animal is a dog or miniature horse that is trained to perform an actual service or task for the benefit of an individual with a disability that is related to the disability. Examples of a service or task include, but are not limited to, assisting individuals who are blind or have low vision with navigation and other tasks, alerting individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing to the presence of people or sounds, pulling a wheelchair, or providing physical support with balance and stability to individuals with mobility disabilities.

**Emotional Support Animal:** An emotional support animal is an animal that is prescribed by a healthcare or mental health professional for a student with a qualifying disability and is necessary to afford them with an equal opportunity to use and enjoy a residence hall room. There must be an identifiable relationship between the student's disability and the support the animal provides. For example, an ESA's presence may positively impact the symptoms of the student's disability by providing emotional support. Emotional support animals are only allowed in the student's on campus residence hall room.

**Pet:** A pet is an animal kept for ordinary use and companionship. A pet is not considered a service or emotional support animal. Pets are welcome to use public, outdoor spaces on campus, subject to certain restrictions including the athletic fields and outdoor events sponsored by Alverno College faculty, staff and students (including but not limited to Graduation and Convocation). Pets/Animals must be under the control of the owner (i.e., on a leash or harness) at all times. Hosts are responsible for cleaning up after any visiting animals. Pets may be in outdoor, public spaces for a temporary, short term (less than one [1] day), and occasional (no more than three [3] times per semester) stay that is not overnight. All damages caused by an animal while on campus property are the responsibility of the owner. To maintain safety and avoid disruption,

pets are not allowed inside buildings or other indoor spaces owned or controlled by the College.