



Service Animals At UC Irvine

The University of California, Irvine is committed to compliance with state and federal laws regarding individuals with disabilities. Members of the UC Irvine community who seek reasonable accommodation for disabilities should contact the Disability Services Center (DSC). Individuals with disabilities may be accompanied by their service animal in all areas of the UC Irvine campus where students; members of the public or invitees; activity, program or service participants are permitted to go. Service animal users are not required to contact or register with DSC, and no documentation or notification to the campus about the need of a service animal is required in order to use a service animal. Those who bring a service animal to campus may contact the Disability Services Center if additional accommodations and services or aids are needed.

Where it is not readily apparent that an animal is a service animal as defined by the Americans With Disabilities Act As Amended (ADAAA), University Faculty, Staff or Students may ask two questions of a person with an animal: (1) Is the animal required because of a disability? (2) What work or task has the animal been trained to perform? Generally, staff will not make 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 (e.g., the dog is observed guiding an individual who is blind, pulling a person's wheelchair, or providing assistance with stability or balance to an individual with an observable mobility disability).

A service animal, including a miniature horse, shall be under the control of its handler. The animal shall have a harness, leash, or other tether, unless either the handler is unable because of a disability to use a harness, leash, or other tether, or the use of a harness, leash, or other tether would interfere with the service animal's safe, effective performance of work or tasks, in which case the service animal must be otherwise under the handler's control (e.g., voice control, signals, or other effective means).

In determining whether reasonable modifications in policies, practices, or procedures can be made to allow a miniature horse into a campus facility, DSC considers—(i) The type, size, and weight of the miniature horse and whether the facility can accommodate these features; (ii) Whether the handler has sufficient control of the miniature horse; (iii) Whether the miniature horse is housebroken; and (iv) Whether the miniature horse's presence in a specific facility compromises legitimate safety requirements that are necessary for safe operation.

UC Irvine shall not ask or require an individual with a disability to pay a surcharge, even if people accompanied by pets are required to pay fees, or to comply with other requirements generally not applicable to people without pets. If a public entity normally charges individuals for the damage they cause, an individual with a disability may be charged for damage caused by his or her service animal.

University staff may ask an individual with a disability to exclude a service or comfort/assistance animal from the premises if: (1) The animal's behavior poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others or is out of control and the animal's handler does not take effective action to control it; or (2) The animal is not housebroken. If UC Irvine properly excludes a service animal the individual with a disability shall have the opportunity to participate in the service, program, or activity without having the service animal on the premises. Appeal/grievance processes and procedures may be found at: <http://www.dsc.uci.edu/Resources/complaints.php>.

Individuals who use service dogs or miniature horses are not required to register with the DSC and will experience no difference in their rights and obligations if they choose to do so. Individuals with disabilities may register with the Disability Services Center if additional accommodations, aides and services are needed and should apply at www.dsc.uci.edu. Individuals are contacted within five business days to schedule an appointment to meet with a Disability Specialist.

Please contact the Disability Services Center with any questions.

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