

Service Animal Policy

In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (1973), the Americans with Disabilities Act (1990), and the Americans with Disabilities Act with Amendments (2008), Monroe County Community College accommodates students with disabilities who require the assistance of a qualified service animal. A service animal is defined as a dog (or rarely, a miniature horse). Students may be accompanied by a service animal to assist them in performing daily life tasks, including academic and campus activities. Service animals are permitted in all areas of the facility that are open to the public or students with the exception of areas where service animals are specifically prohibited due to health or safety reasons. Acquisition of a service animal is the sole responsibility of the student.

Requirements for use of Services Animals include:

- Dogs must be licensed in compliance with all required state and county regulations associated with licensing, vaccinations and other health regulations.
- The care and supervision of a service animal is the sole responsibility of the student/handler. The service animal must be kept under control at all times and not pose a direct threat to the health and safety of other persons on campus. If a service animal poses a direct threat to the health and safety of others on campus, an individual assessment of the situation will be conducted by the Director of Campus Safety.
- Service animals on campus must be kept on a harness, leash, or other tether unless either the handler is unable because of their disability to use a harness, leash, or other tether; or the use of a harness, leash, or tether would interfere with the service animal's safe, effective performance of work or tasks. In these cases, the service animal must be under the handler's control using voice control, signals, and other effective means. The student/handler may be charged for any damages caused by their service animal.
- Cleanliness of the service animal is mandatory and the responsibility of the student/handler. Consideration of others must be taken into account when providing maintenance and hygiene of service animals. The student/handler is expected to clean up and dispose of all animal waste. Students who are unable to do this must make necessary arrangements for assistance. The College is not responsible for these services.

Miniature Horse

- If the service animal is a miniature horse, an assessment of type, size, and weight will be made to determine whether the facility can accommodate these features.
- Other requirements which apply to service animals also apply to miniature horses.

Service Dogs in Training:

- Service dogs in training are permitted on campus in all public facilities on the same basis as service dogs. Service dogs in training must be accompanied by a trainer for the purposes of training. Service dogs in training are not permitted in areas NOT open to the general public such as classrooms or offices.
- Only adult dogs (twelve months of age or older) are considered service dogs in training.

Responsibilities of the Student/Handler of a Service Animal

Is the animal required due to a disability? Yes _____ No _____

What work or task has the animal been trained to perform?

1. The care and supervision of a service animal is the sole responsibility of the student/handler. The service animal must be kept under control at all times and not pose a direct threat to the health and safety of other persons on campus. If a service animal appears to pose a direct threat to the health and safety of others on campus, an assessment of the situation will be made on an individual basis by the Director of Campus Safety.
2. Service animals on campus must have a harness, leash, or other tether unless either the handler is unable because of their disability to use a harness, leash, or other tether; or the use of a harness, leash, or tether would interfere with the service animal's safe, effective performance of work or tasks. In these cases, the service animal must be under the handler's control using voice control, signals, and other effective means. The student/handler may be charged for any damages caused by their service animal.
3. Cleanliness of the service animal is mandatory and the responsibility of the student/handler. Consideration of others must be taken into account when providing I have read and understand the **"Responsibilities of the Student/Handler of a Service Animal"** and agree to abide by the policy while attending Monroe County Community College.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Student I.D Number _____

Counselor Signature _____ Date _____

Copies to: _____ Student _____ Student file