



# Service and Emotional Support Animals Policy

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It is the policy of Fresno Pacific University (FPU) to comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act as amended (ADA), the Fair Housing Act, and other applicable federal and state regulations that prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability.

Fresno Pacific University is aware of its responsibility to provide safe and healthy environment for all members of the university; thus, this policy applies to all employees, students, and guests in on-campus housing.

In addition, Fresno Pacific University is aware of its responsibility to provide safe, healthy housing to all students living in university residence halls and safe working environments for its employees. FPU is committed to providing equal access to university housing to all students with qualifying and documented disabilities. In keeping with this obligation, it is the policy of Fresno Pacific University that service and emotional support animals are permitted in all housing



to be considered harmful. The ERT should make every effort to keep the animal with its  
which may  
necessitate leaving the animal behind in certain emergency evacuation situations.

In the event of a fire alarm or any other type of evacuation, ESA owners are solely responsible for the evacuation of their animals. An ESA must be secured by leash or animal carrier (for cats and other small animals) to be included in evacuation and/or reunification procedures. It is recommended that ESA owners practice evacuating their animals during routine fire drills. If emergency housing is necessary for the FPU

2. The animal must respond to voice or hand commands and the owner must be in full control of the animal at all times.
3. To the extent possible, the animal should be unobtrusive to other individuals and the learning, living, and working environment.
4. Animal Etiquette to the extent possible the owner should ensure that the animal does not
  - a) Sniff people or the personal belongings of others.
  - b) Display any behaviors or noises that are disruptive to others, unless part of the service being provided to the owner.
  - c) Block an aisle or passageway for fire egress.
5. Waste Cleanup
  - a) Cleaning up after the animal is the sole responsibility of the owner. In the event that the owner is not physically able to clean up after the animal, it is then the responsibility of the owner to hire someone capable of cleaning up after the animal. The person cleaning up after the animal should abide by the following guidelines:
    - i)





- ii) For dogs a Canine Good Citizen certificate is preferred: [Canine Good Citizen \(CGC\)](#) [American Kennel Club \(akc.org\)](#)

Note: Although spaying/neutering of cats or dogs is not absolutely required, it is to prevent potential damage by bodily fluids (such as spraying or marking territory).

**Approval (Housing).** Once the required documentation has been submitted and reviewed by Disability Access and Education, they will contact Residence Life. Residence Life will then contact the owner to set up a meeting with a member of the Residence Life staff to review the additional housing rules and responsibilities listed below. **Only at this point can the owner move the animal into housing** *the animal may not be brought onto campus prior to approval by DAE and Residence Life.* Failure to comply with the steps of this process may result in the ESA being denied and/or requiring immediate removal of the animal from campus.

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Dogs on campus should be taken to relieve themselves in outdoor areas that have lawn or planting material in low foot-traffic areas. Do not allow dogs to relieve themselves on sidewalks or the sides of buildings, fountains, or planter boxes. Feces should be cleaned up completely and deposited in outdoor receptacles only.

**b R c**

An SA or ESA may be ordered to be removed by Disability Access and Education, the VP of Student Development, the Director of Residence Life and Housing, or a Campus Safety Officer for the following reasons:

**Disruptive animal:** An owner may be directed to remove an animal, within 24 hours, if it is determined to be a nuisance to staff or residents. Some examples include but are not limited to excessive barking, whining, growling, yowling, howling, and grooming (licking or chewing). The animal may also be removed if it causes excessive damage to university property, including but not limited to chewing, scratching, spraying, digging, etc.

**Non-housebroken animal:** An owner may be directed to remove an animal, within 24 hours, that is not housebroken.

taken significant steps to mitigate the behavior. Obedience and training programs are highly recommended.

**Direct threat:** An owner may be directed to immediately remove an animal that FPU determines to be a substantial and direct threat to the health and safety of individuals. Such behavior includes but is not limited to lunging, growling, snapping or attempting to bite, biting or scratching (even if skin is not broken).

If the animal poses an immediate threat and the Owner is not able to remove the animal, Animal Control may be summoned to remove the animal.

**Behavior modification plans:** If the behavior of the animal can be addressed by the owner and the owner can change the behavior of an animal so that the animal does not have to be removed, a written action plan must be submitted to the Director of Residence Life and Housing. The action plan must outline the action that will take place to change the behavior and provide a date by which the plan will be complete and behavior changed. Any action plan must meet the approval of the Director of Residence Life and Housing. During the time the action plan is submitted and awaiting decision, the animal must be removed from university property. The day after the deadline for the animal to be removed from housing, Residence Life staff will inspect the room for damages and infestations. *Any owner found not adhering to the removal directive will be subject to the Restorative Discipline process.*

When an SA or ESA is properly removed pursuant to this policy, FPU will work with the owner to determine reasonable alternative opportunities to participate in the service, program, or activity without having the animal on the premises.





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Upon receipt of SA registration or approval of an ESA, residential staff, Campus Safety, and other pertinent university officials will be notified as appropriate. Other residents of \_\_\_\_\_ will be notified to obtain their acknowledgment of the approval.

Once the animal has been approved, the Owner must abide by the following rules and responsibilities. Failure to comply may lead to sanctions including removal of the animal from university housing. The owner should initial each item as it is reviewed with a staff member of Residence Life to indicate that it has been understood.

\_\_\_\_\_1. The Owner must be in full control of the SA or ESA at all times (i.e. leash, harness, or crate). The SA or ESA must always wear a collar and tags as appropriate for the breed. Dogs, cats, or rabbits must be kept on a leash at all times when not in the resident's bedroom.

\_\_\_\_\_2. The owner must provide for the animal's well-being, care, and cleaning, including but not limited to regular feeding, bathing, grooming, daily care, and veterinary services. The animal must not be bathed in an on-campus facility. FPU requires humane treatment of any animal.

\_\_\_\_\_3. The ESA will remain in the owner's university-assigned living area and is not allowed in residential common rooms, classrooms, academic buildings, administrative buildings, restrooms, libraries, dining service areas, fitness center, pool, etc.

\_\_\_\_\_4. ESAs must be contained in a Residence Life-approved crate, carrier, or kennel. A cat \_\_\_\_\_

However, if Residence Life, Facilities, or Campus Safety has sent notice of an imminent visit, the animal must be safely contained. This containment will allow FPU officials to gain access to the residential facilities for maintenance and other routine tasks without posing risk to the animal or employees.

If the animal's confinement would impose an inhumane amount of time for the animal to be confined, the owner must make alternative arrangements off-campus for appropriate care of the animal.

\_\_\_\_\_5. The SA or ESA may not be left unattended overnight in the residential facilities and may not be cared for by another student. SAs or ESAs must be taken off-campus with the owner if they leave campus for a prolonged period or if they are gone overnight.

\_\_\_\_\_6. ESAs must be taken out of the building by the shortest and most direct path and must be maintained under standard restraints such as a carrier and/or leash when outdoors or in transit.



