

# Wabash.

## Assistance Animal Policy

The Wabash College Assistance Animal Policy works in accordance with the Gentleman's Rule and clarifies the College's expectations of students who are approved to have Assistance Animals on campus. Approved Emotional Support Animals and Service Animals are the only animals allowed on campus.

### Definitions:

#### Partner

- A person with a disability using an Assistance Animal

#### Assistance Animal

- A Service Animal OR
- An Emotional Support Animal

#### Service Animal

- An animal that provides assistance or performs tasks for the benefit of a specific person with a disability
- May accompany the partner in all areas of the College

#### Emotional Support Animal

- An animal prescribed by a medical professional to provide emotional support that alleviates one or more symptoms or effects of a disability
- Differs from a service animal in that it does not perform tasks for the benefit of a specific person or accompany that person at all times.
- Has access to College housing but is not permitted in other areas of the College, such as the library, academic buildings, classrooms, dining areas, labs, workspaces, computer labs, athletic facilities, etc.

### Obtaining Authorization for an Assistance Animal On-Campus:

- *Prior to bringing the Assistance Animal to campus*, the Partner must seek approval from the Accessibility Services Office via the [Assistance Animal Form](#)). Failure to do so may result in a delay in the use of an Assistance Animal.
- The Partner must provide a dated letter from a certified medical professional on letterhead validating the need for an Assistance Animal.
- The Partner must provide up-to-date vaccination records each year the animal remains on campus.
- If the animal is a dog, the Partner must also purchase a [\\$5.00 License from the City of Crawfordsville](#).

## **Campus Access for Assistance Animals**

- Approved Emotional Support Animals are restricted to public outdoor spaces and the Partner's personal living area. Leashed and supervised use of common areas and hallways within the Partner's living unit is permitted.
- Approved Service Animals may accompany the partner in all areas of the College, including the academic buildings, classrooms, labs, dining areas, and athletic facilities.

## **Guidelines for Assistance Animals on Campus and in College Housing:**

- The Assistance Animal must be under the control of the Partner at all times.
- Within College housing, the Assistance Animal is restricted to the Partner's room and, if properly supervised by the Partner, common areas in the living unit.
- The Partner must restrain the Assistance Animal if Campus Services needs to enter the residence for cleaning, service, or repairs.
- The Assistance Animal must always remain on a leash when it is not in the Partner's room.
- The Partner must promptly clean up after the Assistance Animal, whether inside or outside the residence. Feces must be cleaned up immediately and disposed of properly.
- The Partner may request that others avoid petting, addressing, feeding, deliberately startling, and/or trying to separate the Partner from the Assistance Animal.
- The Assistance Animal must not make unwanted contact with other people or their personal belongings.
- The Assistance Animal must not exhibit any behaviors or noises that are disruptive to others.
- The Partner is not permitted to leave campus and entrust the care of the Assistance Animals to others. The Partner must provide care for the Assistance Animal at all times while it is on campus.

## **Removal of an Assistance Animal from College Owned Living Unit:**

Grounds for immediate removal of the Assistance Animal from campus include, but is not limited to, the following:

- The animal engages in aggressive or threatening behavior (e.g. growling or biting) toward the Partner or others.
- It makes unwanted contact with others.
- It makes excessive noise.
- It is allowed to run around unrestrained
- It shows signs of being unclean, unkempt and/or uncared for.
- The Partner fails to abide by the Gentleman's Rule and this policy.

## **Damages and Liability:**

- The Partner will be responsible for any damages to College property that are caused by the Assistance Animal.
- Partners are encouraged to maintain Renter's Insurance, including liability coverage for the Assistance Animal.

**Assistance Animals in Poor Health:**

If an Assistance Animal is in poor health, the Partner must:

- Refrain from taking the Assistance Animal into public areas.
- Seek immediate veterinary attention.

A Partner with an ill animal may be required to remove the animal from College property.

**Emergency Situations:**

- Responding emergency personnel should be trained to recognize Assistance Animals and should make every effort to keep the animal with its Partner; however, emergency personnel's first effort should be to the Partner.
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**Conflicting/Competing Disability Accommodations:**

If a student has medical or safety-related concern(s) affected by Assistance Animals, the student should:

- Contact the Accessibility Services Office.
- Provide documentation that identifies the condition.

The Accessibility Services Office will assess whether there is a need for an accommodation.

**Important Links:**

Americans with Disabilities Act

[https://www.ada.gov/regs2010/titleIII\\_2010/titleIII\\_2010\\_withbold.htm](https://www.ada.gov/regs2010/titleIII_2010/titleIII_2010_withbold.htm)

Fair Housing Act

[http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program\\_offices/fair\\_housing\\_equal\\_opp/progdesc/title8](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/fair_housing_equal_opp/progdesc/title8)