

Statement Regarding Pets on Campus

Over the summer, the University of Tampa implemented a **campus-wide no pet policy**, which prohibits any animal on campus, with exception to service animals and emotional support animals or animals being used for special programs/purposes.

Service animals are permitted anywhere that the handler is permitted, thus if a student has a service animal that animal is allowed in the classroom. By definition of ADA law, service animals can either be a dog or miniature horse.

Emotional support animals can be any domesticated animal, but are only permitted in the student's residence and the area around the residence. Thus, students are not permitted to bring an emotional support animal to class.

By law, you can ask **two questions** of the student in order to determine if the animal is a service animal:

1. Is your dog a service animal required because of a disability? If the student says 'yes,' you can ask the following question.

*If the student answers 'no' then you can inform them that they must take the animal back to their room. In the case that you are uncomfortable asking the student to remove the animal or the student refuses, you can call Campus Safety.

2. What work or task has it been trained to perform? (tasks do not include such things as *providing comfort* and/or *reducing stress/anxiety*)

Please do not go beyond these questions – it is a violation of federal law and can result in a significant fine by the Office of Civil Rights.

For information and the current Service, Assistance, and Emotional Support animal policy, you can find it on the Student Disability Services website: [Housing Accommodations](#). If you have questions regarding the animal policy, animals in your classroom, or any other disability-related inquiries, please feel free to contact Stacey Davis (sdavis@ut.edu), Director of Academic Excellence Programs, or Liz Schoepp, Associate Director of Academic Excellence Programs (eschoepp@ut.edu).