

## Service Animals

Qualified service animals are generally permitted in campus buildings as a reasonable accommodation to assist the individual with disabilities. The Service Animal/Pet Identification Form and In Case of Emergency Form must be completed and returned to the Executive Dean of Academics and Student Services. Requests for service animals will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

Where it is not readily apparent that an animal is a service animal as defined by the American with Disabilities Act, the College may ask if the animal is required because of a disability and what work or task the animal has been trained to perform.

The College may exclude a service or assistance animal if the animal is not housebroken; would pose a direct threat to the health, safety, or property of others that cannot be reduced or eliminated by a reasonable accommodation; is out of control and the individual does not take effective action to control it; would fundamentally alter the nature of a program or activity; or is not being cared for by the individual.

The service animal must:

- Be housebroken
- Provide proof of current rabies vaccinations
- Be in a harness or on a leash at all times; exception: if the handler's disability interferes with the use of 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.
- Be under control and behave properly at all times
- Be bathed regularly
- Be toilet trained; owner is responsible for the cleanup of animal waste unless person's disability would prevent this
- Use appropriate toilet areas

The College is not responsible for the care or supervision of service or assistance animals. Individuals with disabilities are responsible for the control of their animals at all times and for ensuring the immediate clean up and proper disposal of all animal waste. Individuals must comply with all applicable laws and regulations, including vaccination, licensure, animal health and leash laws.

There are certain areas that may be considered unsafe for the service dog and its partner, or where the presence of animal might interfere with the safety of others (i.e. labs, clinical area). Exceptions would have to be made on a case-by-case basis. If it is determined that an area is unsafe, reasonable accommodations will be provided to assure equal access to the student.

Although the College will not charge an individual with a disability a service animal surcharge, it may impose charges for damages caused by a service or assistance animal in the same manner the College imposes charges for damages to property.

Questions related to the use of service animals at St. Luke's College should be directed to the Executive Dean of Academics and Student Services (712) 279-3377 [danelle.johannsen@stlukescollege.edu](mailto:danelle.johannsen@stlukescollege.edu).

If you are dissatisfied with a decision concerning a service animal and would like to appeal the decision, contact the President at (712) 279-3149. The decision of the President shall be final.