

Assistance Animal Support Animal Owner/Handler Responsibilities

The Sierra Joint Community College District Residence Hall is not responsible for the supervision, cost, or care of an Assistance Animal. A student owner/handler's ("Resident") responsibilities for an approved Assistance Animal include, but are not limited to:

1. The Resident must ensure that the Assistance Animal does not disturb or disrupt Residence Hall operations.
2. When the Assistance Animal is outside of the Resident's assigned unit, the Assistance Animal must be on a leash, harness, or other type of restraint at all times, unless the Resident is unable to retain the Assistance Animal on a leash due to a disability, in which case the Resident must maintain control of the Assistance Animal through voice, signal, or other effective controls.
3. The Resident must clean up all messes created by the Assistance Animal and animal waste immediately. The Resident must place any animal waste in a plastic bag and dispose of it in an outside trash receptacle. Indoor trashcans should not be used for this purpose.
4. The Resident must ensure that the Assistance Animal is well cared for, properly nourished, clean, and hygienic.
5. The Resident must ensure that the Assistance Animal is immunized against rabies and any other diseases common to that type of animal. The Resident must provide documentation of vaccinations annually, or more frequently if the District requests.
6. The Resident must comply with local licensure/registration requirements for the Assistance Animal and provide a copy of such licensure/registration to the District annually.
7. The Resident must cover the costs of repairs for damage the Assistance Animal causes to the Residence Hall, excluding ordinary wear and tear.
8. The Resident is responsible for any injuries caused by the Assistance Animal. Accordingly, the District encourages the Resident to consider purchasing appropriate liability insurance.
9. An Assistance Animal may not be left alone or in the care of others overnight in campus housing or for any period exceeding 24 hours without prior approval from the Residence Hall Supervisor or designee.
10. The Resident must promptly notify Residence Hall management if the Assistance Animal escapes.
11. If Residence Hall staff need to enter the Resident's assigned unit when the Resident is not present, the Resident must ensure that the Assistance Animal is caged, crated or removed from the assigned unit during the time that Residence Hall staff are present. The Residence Hall is not liable if the Assistance Animal escapes during one of these visits. Residence Hall staff will attempt to provide reasonable notice of the need for entry; however, Residence Hall staff may need to enter without notice in certain circumstances, such as an emergency.
12. If there is an emergency drill or actual emergency that requires evacuation of the Residence Hall, the Resident must crate or cage the Assistance Animal or remove it from the assigned unit. The Resident will not be permitted to re-enter a building during an actual emergency to retrieve the Assistance Animal, but every effort will be made to inform emergency personnel that the animal is present.

13. The Resident must provide Residence Hall staff with a photo of the animal and emergency contact information for an individual who will care for the Assistance Animal in the event the Resident is unable to or has to leave campus unexpectedly. If the emergency contact is not available and the Resident abandons the Assistance Animal, the District may turn the Assistance Animal over to Animal Control authorities.

If the Resident submits a request for an Assistance Animal after moving in, the Resident and his/her/their roommate must have a conversation about bringing an animal to live in their shared campus housing. If issues arise related to roommates, suitemates and/or Assistance Animal, the Resident should contact the Residence Hall Office as early as possible so that Residence Hall staff can provide assistance.

I _____ have read and understand the Assistance Animal Owner/Handler Responsibilities and recognize that this signed form will be shared with District Residence Life Department Staff.

Signature

Date