



STUDENT AFFAIRS

The University of Alabama at Birmingham

Handler Responsibilities & Acknowledgment

Service Animals in Training

As a general rule, UAB will modify policies, practices, and procedures to permit the use of a service animal by an individual with a disability. Service animals are exempt from the university's policy of no animals on campus and are generally permitted in all facilities and programs on the UAB campus that are open to the public or to students except as described below.

UAB recognizes that the university offers a rich environment to train service animals to work or perform specific tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability. As an extension of the commitment to accessibility, UAB is providing the following guidelines to manage the presence of Service Animals in Training on the UAB campus.

Any questions, concerns, or requests for additional information should be directed to UAB Student Affairs at (205) 934-8465 or SAITraining@uab.edu.

Definition – Service Animals in Training

For the purposes of these guidelines, a Service Animal in Training is any animal that is undergoing a training program to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. The work or task a Service Animal in Training is being trained to accomplish must be directly related to a person's disability.

Puppies being raised or animals receiving socialization training or basic obedience training are not Service Animals in Training and are covered by policies or guidelines governing pets.

Responsibilities of Handlers for Service Animals in Training:

1. Handlers are required to keep their animals under their direct physical control at all times. A Handler must maintain close and direct physical control of the Service Animal in Training at all times by means of an appropriate leash or other lead of a type and length not to exceed 10 feet that enables the Handler to maintain close and direct physical



STUDENT AFFAIRS

The University of Alabama at Birmingham

control of the service animal. Examples of an SAIT that is out of control include, but are not limited to, an animal that repeatedly gets loose and runs at large, even if it does not physically injure another person or another service animal, an animal that causes property damage, and an animal that is repeatedly barking or jumping.

2. The Handler is prohibited from transferring control to another person even momentarily, requesting the assistance of other persons in supervising or controlling their animal or otherwise leaving the presence of their animal for any period of time while on UAB facilities. Handlers are responsible for ensuring that the animal is contained appropriately when not present in the residence unit for class, work, or other activity.
3. The Handler must ensure that their animal is kept clean and well-groomed and kept in a healthy, clean environment.
4. The Handler must ensure that their Service Animal in Training is housebroken. In the event of an isolated incident of a Service Animal in Training failing to control its bodily eliminations due to illness or accident, the Handler is responsible for immediately and properly cleaning up and disposing of any bodily fluids or solid waste from the Service Animal in Training whether indoors or outdoors. Handlers who are also residents of a UAB controlled residence facility are responsible for maintaining their animals in a sanitary and clean manner in the residence halls.
5. Proper clean-up will depend on the specific circumstances but includes at a minimum physical removal of any liquid and solid wastes and disposal of the same and the cleaning materials used by securing the materials in a plastic bag and depositing the bag in an outdoor waste container. To this end, Handlers are required to have in their possession at all times when accompanied by their animal appropriate and sufficient cleaning materials and disposal bags whenever their animals are present on UAB facilities or property.



STUDENT AFFAIRS

The University of Alabama at Birmingham

6. In the case of a Handler whose disability prevents or impairs the ability to comply with the requirements of this paragraph, as required by applicable federal laws, it is the responsibility of such Handler to have previously made satisfactory arrangements for a third party to perform all actions required by this paragraph. In all cases of damage to UAB facilities or property by an animal failing to control its bodily elimination due to illness or otherwise, the owner is responsible for the cost of additional cleaning of or repairs to UAB facilities or the cleaning repair, or replacement of damaged property.
7. Handlers shall be liable for any and all resulting costs when an animal causes damage to UAB facilities or property or injury to persons. In all cases of damage to UAB facilities or property by an animal failing to control its bodily eliminations due to illness, accident, or otherwise, the owner is personally responsible for the cost of additional cleaning of or repairs to UAB facilities or the cleaning, repair, or replacement of damaged property. In the case of any incident involving injury to a person by an animal, the Handler shall make an immediate report to the UAB Police Department so that the incident can be properly investigated and documented, and the UAB shall also fully comply with any state or local law or regulation requiring additional reports to other government agencies that may be required due to the physical injury caused by the animal.
8. All approved Service Animals in Training must be in compliance with state and local laws regarding health, vaccination, and care of the particular type of animal.
9. Students who misrepresent an animal as a service animal in training or fail to register their service animal in training may be in violation of UAB's Student Conduct Code.



STUDENT AFFAIRS

The University of Alabama at Birmingham

Acknowledgment

For Handler:

I acknowledge that I have received and read UAB's guidelines for Service Animals in Training and handler responsibilities. By signing this, I acknowledge that I understand my responsibilities and accept any liability for damages or injury caused by the Service Animal in Training. **(Initial _____)**

I certify that all information contained in this form is accurate, and I agree to submit an amended registration in a timely manner if any of this information changes. **(Initial _____)**

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

For alternate handler:

I acknowledge that I have received and read UAB's Position statement for Services Animals in Training along with the guidelines and handler responsibilities and understand that as an alternate handler I am responsible for knowing and abiding by these and any other University guidelines regarding Service Animals in Training when the animal is in my care.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

The Handler will be notified in writing upon completion and review of this application.