



STUDENT LIFE POLICY

Number/Title: 707 Animals on University Owned or Controlled Property

Effective Date: 05/06/2020

Covered Individual: Students, Employees, Visitors, and Contractors

Covered Location: Fayette and U.S. Centers

Strategic Plan: Strategic Priority 1.3

HLC: Criterion 2E

Consultations: Assistant Vice President for Student Life, Assistant Dean of Student Life, Director of Counseling, Vice President for Human Resources, Director of Facilities, Director of Student Accessibility Services

New

Revision Change*

***Anything that is a revision must include the original policy.**

PURPOSE

Upper Iowa University (UIU or University) supports the use of service and emotional support animals on campus and at centers in compliance with applicable federal and state laws. At the same time, UIU recognizes the health and safety risks potentially created by unrestrained and/or untrained animals on campus. This policy sets procedures in regard to individuals bringing animals on campus.

DEFINITIONS

1. **Service Animals** –Service animals are defined as dogs (or miniature horses) that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities. The tasks performed by the dog (MH) must be directly related to the person’s disability. The dog must be trained to take a specific action when needed to assist the person with a disability such as guiding an individual with impaired vision, pulling a wheelchair or fetching dropped items amongst others. Service animals, including those in the process of training through a credentialed training facility, may accompany an individual with a disability or a person training the animal in public facilities and accommodations or places to which the general public is invited (e.g. academic buildings, administrative offices, residence halls), as long as the animal is under control.
2. **Support Animals** -- Support animals are animals that provide therapeutic benefit to individuals with a disability, and are prescribed by a physician or licensed mental health professional. Unlike service animals, support animals require no specific training and do not provide specific service with activities of daily living - as their mere presence with the individual mitigates the effects of the disability. Support animals are permitted in university residence hall rooms, apartments and houses. Unlike service animals, support animals are generally prohibited in indoor areas considered public including, but not limited to, community bathrooms, lounges, dining centers, computer labs, classrooms, office workspaces, and nonresidential facilities on campus. Requests for permission to have support animals in residence or in public areas must be made to the Student Accessibility Services Office if the individual is a student or Human Resources if the individual is an employee of UIU. If the request for permission involves classrooms or other academic spaces, the relevant academic dean must also be consulted.

3. Working Animals -- Working animals are animals used: a) in academic courses or for education and research purposes, in which case Policy 111, Animal Care and Use, will be followed; b) for law enforcement and rescue purposes; or c) under the direction of licensed mental health professionals employed by the university for therapeutic purposes on site at the Counseling Services or in public spaces. Working animals are permitted on campus by authorized individuals. The Assistant Vice President for Student Life (AVPSL) and/or the Vice President for Human Resources (VPHR) will determine if and when working animals are permitted on campus, with notice to and input from the relevant academic dean if the use is academic.
4. Companion Animals -- Companion animals are animals living with individuals for purposes of pleasure, leisure time activity and companionship. Generally, companion animals are prohibited from entering campus facilities. Exceptions are provided for: a) the University President's residence; b) University-owned houses (excluding Hofmaster Apartments); and c) Residence Area Coordinator (RAC) apartments. For UIU owned housing and the University President's residence, it is required that the Pet Policy-UIU Rental Houses form be completed and submitted to the Director of Facilities. For Residence Area Coordinators, it is required to complete the Pet Policy-UIU Rental Houses form and submit it to the Assistant Dean of Student Life. Residence Life permits residence students to keep non-dangerous fish in aquariums no larger than 25 gallons.

POLICY

UIU allows individuals to bring animals on University property in accordance with federal laws and in other situations subject to the rules outlined in this policy. To protect public health and safety, the University regulates the kinds of animals allowed onto University owned or controlled property. Service animals (as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)), support animals (as defined by the Fair Housing Act (FHA)), and working animals (as defined by this policy), are permitted by law and this policy. This practice follows Titles II and III of the ADA.

Companion animals with a valid license, current vaccinations, under proper restraint (e.g. leashed), and accompanied by their owners, are permitted on campus grounds – but prohibited from entering campus facilities (e.g. administrative and academic buildings, residential facilities) and from being on campus athletic and recreation fields.

Owner(s) and keepers of animals on campus are responsible for their animals at all times. This responsibility includes complying with all state laws and local animal ordinances, as well as all University policies and guidelines including the following requirements:

- Providing appropriate restraint, control and supervision of animals at all times; one example is keeping the animal on a leash or in a crate.
- Providing animals with appropriate care, including food, water, shelter, health care and humane treatment.
- Cleaning up and disposing of all animal waste (both indoors and outdoors) in a timely and sanitary fashion.
- Confining animals when leaving them alone in a University-owned residence, and not leaving animals alone for a time period in excess of six consecutive hours per 24 hours.
- Not allowing odor, noise, damage, or other behavior of animals that disturbs the residential community or damages University grounds, facilities or property.

There are exceptions and exclusions to this policy, as follows:

- An animal may be prohibited from or required to leave a facility on campus if the animal's behavior or presence poses a direct threat to the health, safety or normal daily life of others. An example is an animal that displays aggressive/vicious behaviors toward people.

- Animals may be prohibited in areas where their presence fundamentally alters the nature of a program or activity or is disruptive. Examples include, but are not limited to, research labs, areas requiring protective clothing, and food preparation areas.
- Animals may be prohibited in areas where the safety of the animals cannot be guaranteed, such as in science labs or art studios where eye or other protection is required.
- An animal may be prohibited if the owner/keeper does not adhere to the Responsibilities of Individuals with Animals on Campus (see attached procedures), or if the animal substantially interferes with the reasonable use of housing or public accommodation by others.
- Animals that have been abandoned or found within University facilities that are not a part of a University-sponsored program may be impounded and/or placed with a third party, at the expense of the owner or individual who claims the animal.

UIU may ask an individual with a disability to remove a service animal from the premises if the animal's presence or behavior fundamentally alters the nature of the services that UIU provides, the animal is out of control and the animal's handler does not take effective action to control it, or the animal poses a direct threat to the health and safety of others that cannot be eliminated by reasonable accommodation.

This policy applies to employees, students, University affiliates, visitors, contractors, and applicants for admission to or employment with the University. This policy should not be read to grant an individual access to University property beyond that to which they would normally be granted.

This policy does not apply to animals involved in authorized research, K-9 animals (police dogs), fish contained in aquariums, and animals used for performance on premises or involved in a University sponsored activity, such as mascots, but only as approved by the University and the AVPSL.

PROCEDURES

Procedures re Animals on University Owned or Controlled Property

UIU Animal Care and Use Policy found at

<https://uiu.edu/wp-content/uploads/Animal-Care-and-Use-Policy-12-10-18.pdf>

UIU Student Accessibility Services, 563-425-5949

UIU Human Resources 563-425-5959

UIU Accommodations of Disabilities Policy found in the Disabilities Handbook

UIU Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation Policy found at

<https://uiu.edu/wp-content/uploads/305-Discrimination-Harassment-and-Retaliation-Policy-9.8.20.pdf>

Americans with Disabilities Act, <http://www.ada.gov/>

Fair Housing Act, www.justice.gov/crt

CONTACTS

Acting as the Policy Owners as it applies to students, the AVPSL and the Director of Student Accessibility Services are responsible for answering questions regarding the application of this policy.

Acting as the Policy Owner as it applies to employees, the VPHR is responsible for answering questions regarding the application of this policy.

SANCTIONS

UIU is committed to ensuring that the needs of all individuals with disabilities are met; and will work to resolve any complaints, conflicts or problems as expeditiously as possible.

Animals that are out of control, presenting a disruption or posing a threat to the campus community should be reported to Student Life. Individuals found to be violating the Responsibilities of Individuals with Animals on Campus (see attached procedures) should also be reported to Student Life, (563) 425-5215.

Resident students violating the Responsibilities of Individuals with Animals on Campus (see attached procedures) should be reported to the Resident Assistant or Residence Area Coordinator, (563) 425-5215. Violation of these requirements may constitute a violation of the student conduct code and referral to the Assistant Dean of Student Life, (563) 425-5209.

Individuals with service or support animals who feel they have been treated unfairly, discriminated against, or harassed should consult with the AVPSL or the VPHR, as appropriate.

HISTORY

- December 2, 2016 – Original policy, Animals on Campus, was recommended by the University Policy Committee (UPC).
- December 7, 2016 – Original policy was approved by the President’s Council.
- April 27, 2020 – New policy was conditionally recommended by University Policy Committee.
- May 1, 2020 – New policy was recommended by electronic vote by the UPC.
- May 6, 2020 – The President’s Council recommended the new policy to the President, who then approved it.
- October 21, 2021 -- Nonsubstantive changes were made by the Director of Student Accessibility Services.

RELATED DOCUMENTS, FORMS, AND POLICIES

<https://uiu.edu/wp-content/uploads/ESA-Registration-Form-9-24-21.pdf>



For Office of Academic Affairs Only

Revision History

Revision Number:	Revision Date:	Revision Change

Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs Approval:

Signature:	Name:	Date:
	Douglas L. Binsfeld	