

Service and Support Animals within Student Housing Grenfell Campus, Memorial University

Grenfell Campus Student Housing is committed to the inclusion and accommodation of students with disabilities. Students who require the presence of comfort or service animals will be provided reasonable accommodation in accordance with the university's policy and procedures on *Accessibility for Students with Disabilities*. This includes allowing service or support animals to live with students in their on-campus accommodation upon approval by the office of Accessibility Centre and Education Support (ACES). The student will be asked to provide documentation verifying: (1) the person has a disability, (2) the animal is necessary to afford the person with a disability an equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling, (3) there is a clear, established relationship between the animal and the person; and (4) there is an identifiable relationship between the disability and the assistance the animal provides. ACES advising staff will review the documentation and communicate their recommendations to Student Housing staff on whether the student should be permitted to bring the animal into Residence. All documentation submitted is kept strictly confidential and is shared with Student Housing for placement purposes only. Other campus units (i.e. Campus Enforcement and Patrol, Residence Life staff, Facilities staff) will be notified about the location of Service/Support animals for evacuation procedures while in Student Housing.

A service/support animal may not live in Student Housing until the owner/handler has received approval from the Manager of Student Housing or designee. The owner/handler must make a request by contacting ACES. The request should be initiated by June 15th, before room assignments are allocated. Requests for service/support animals are only accepted on an annual basis. Applications will not be accepted during mid-semester or the Winter semester due to logistical reasons.

Prior to move-in, the owner/handler must contact the Manager of Student Housing to schedule a meeting to discuss owner/handler responsibilities and review the guidelines. This meeting must occur on the day of arrival to move into Student Housing.

A university policy and procedure is being drafted regarding *Animals on Campus*. When that policy and procedure become effective, these guidelines will be replaced by that policy and procedure.

Special Considerations: Due to the unique living environments of a university setting, i.e., density of population, food preparation, and multi-use of space, some types of animals may not be permitted even if such animals are permitted to be owned in the City of Corner Brook. If a support animal is not a dog or cat, other restrictions may apply, as warranted by the unique living environment.

Service animals, in accordance with the *Service Animal Act*, are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability. Such animals might guide individuals with impaired vision, alert individuals who are hearing impaired to intruders or sounds, pull a wheelchair, or fetch items used in daily living.

Support animals are prescribed by a healthcare or mental health professional to play an integral part in the provision of emotional support, comfort or therapy and/or treatment process for an individual. A support animal **is not** a service animal and need not be individually trained or certified to perform any disability-related task

Student Housing may exclude a service or support animal from housing if it (1) poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others, (2) would cause substantial physical damage to the property of others, (3) would pose an undue financial and administrative burden, or (4) the application is submitted after the deadline.