



## Office of Housing and Residential Life Service Animal Request Form



**EQUAL HOUSING  
OPPORTUNITY**

Students requesting a service animal must also submit a housing accommodation request form.

### **Important Definitions:**

**Service Animal:** A dog or miniature horse that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a documented disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other cognitive disability.

**In-Training Service Animal:** A dog, puppy or miniature horse being trained has the same rights to access as a fully trained service dog or miniature horse. See MGL ch. 129, sec. 39F. For the purpose of this policy and procedure, reference to "Service Animal" shall include and refer to In-Training Service Animal.

**Under Handler Control:** A service animal or assistance animal must be under handler control at all times, which is defined as leashed, tethered, harnessed, unless that would interfere with the animal's work, in which case the animal must be under the handler's control via voice, hand signals, or other cue.

### **Policy:**

**Vaccinations:** In accordance with local ordinances and regulations, the service or assistance animal must have current vaccinations and must be immunized against diseases common to that type of animal. Routine maintenance of the service or assistance animal is expected and includes flea and tick prevention, deworming, and annual examinations. Local licensing and proper tagging is also required for all service or assistance animals. The health of service or assistance animals must be documented annually by a licensed veterinarian. The University has authority to ask for proof of documentation and/or direct that the service or assistance animal receive veterinary attention.

**Care of Animal:** Under Massachusetts' law a handler of an animal must provide (1) proper food and water, (2) shelter or protection from the weather, (3) veterinary attention needed to reduce or end suffering from disease or injury, and (4) a sanitary environment. A handler of an animal is prohibited from (a) willfully abandoning an animal, (b) carrying or causing an animal to be carried in or on a vehicle in a manner that endangers that animal including transport of an improperly secured animal, or (c) willfully permitting an animal to be subjected to unnecessary torture, suffering, or cruelty.

**Housebroken:** Service or assistance animals must be housebroken. The student is responsible for properly containing and disposing of all animal waste. When indoors, animal waste must be placed in a sturdy bag and tied securely before being disposed of in a designated trash bin. When outdoors, animal waste must be immediately retrieved by the student, placed in a plastic bag, and securely tied before being disposed of in a designated trash bin.

**Control of Animal:** The student must effectively always control the service or assistance animal, such that the animal is considered under handler control, as defined above. If the student cannot effectively control the service or assistance animal or if it poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others, the University may have the animal removed from campus and/or suspend the accommodation until such time that the problem is rectified. If the University determines that an assistance animal poses a serious direct threat to health or safety, the University may rescind the accommodation made for that particular animal on a case-by-case basis.

**Responsibility for Damage:** The student is financially responsible for the actions of service or assistance approved animal including bodily injury or property damage. The student responsibility covers but is not limited to additional cleaning, repair, or replacement of furniture, carpet, window, wall covering, and the like. The student is expected to cover these costs at the time of repair and/or move-out. Communication with Others: The student is responsible for instructing others on appropriate interactions with the service or assistance animal and setting clear expectations.

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Two Emergency Contacts Information (Full Name, Phone Number, City, State & Relationship):

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*\*\*Your emergency contacts must be willing and able to take care of the animal if you are not able to. We may need to reach out to this contact. Emergency contacts cannot be Resident Assistants or UMass Boston employees) \*\**

Veterinarians Name & Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Veterinarians License # & State: \_\_\_\_\_

Animal Type (dog or miniature horse): \_\_\_\_\_

Animal Breed: \_\_\_\_\_

Animal Weight: \_\_\_\_\_

Rabies Tag #: \_\_\_\_\_

Is the animal spayed/neutered:            Yes            No

**Boston Dog License # (all dogs must be licensed in Boston prior to their approval to be on-campus. Dogs cannot be licensed in Boston any earlier than 6 months of age, meaning dogs younger than 6 months will not be approved.)**

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What work or task has the dog been trained to perform?

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Supporting Documentation Required:

1. Certificate of Health
  - a. Proof of rabies vaccine and date
  - b. Proof of flea and tick prevention
  - c. Proof of deworming
  - d. Proof of annual exam
2. Confirmation of dog being licensed in Boston.