

Service Animal Guidelines

Kishwaukee College understands the benefits a service animal can provide for people with disabilities. It is the College's policy to ensure all students with disabilities have an equal opportunity to participate in all programs, services, and activities on campus.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act as amended in 2008 and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Kishwaukee College has provided the following guidelines relative to having a service animal on campus.

What is a service animal?

A service animal (no certification required) is defined as a dog or miniature horse that is individually trained to do work or perform a task for the benefit of a person with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. The task it is trained to do must be directly related to the person's disability. Illinois Statute defines a service animal in training as a service animal.

Emotional support/comfort animals (prescription required) or therapy dogs (training and certification required) are not considered service animals under Title II or Title III of the ADA and are generally not permitted on campus. Students who wish to request to have a non-service animal on campus must meet with the Coordinator of Disability Services prior to bringing an animal on campus. Please call 815-825-2931 to schedule an appointment.

Service animals on campus

Service animals may have access to any public space on campus where the handler is allowed to go. A service animal may be restricted from certain areas of the College if it presents a safety concern for others.

College personnel should give a service animal and its handler access to activities, events, and campus property. In the event it is not apparent that the service animal is trained to perform a task(s) for its handler, personnel may only ask the following questions of the handler:

1. Is the animal required because of a disability?
2. What work or task(s) is this animal trained to perform?

Tips for the public

Please remember that a service animal is a working animal. Please refrain from feeding, petting, or distracting a service animal. The service animal should not be separated from its handler.

Handler's responsibilities

- Animal must be in handler's control at all times.
- Animal must be leashed, tethered, or harnessed at all times. If the use of a leash, tether, or harness interferes with the task the animal is trained to do or if the handler's disability prevents the use of these devices, the animal must be under the handler's control through voice control or signals.
- Handler is responsible for animal's behavior.
- Handler is responsible for any damage or injury to any individual on College property.
- Handler must ensure all legal requirements are met for the presence of animals in public spaces, such as vaccinations, licensure, and ID tags as mandated by State and local ordinances.
- To the extent possible, animal should be non-obstructive to the learning/working environment.
- Animal must be housebroken, and it is expected that handler will be responsible for proper toileting and clean-up (animal may relieve itself in any grassy area on campus).
- It is **highly** recommended the animal wear some type of identifiable vest or symbol, letting others know it is a working service animal.
- Animal may be restricted from certain areas of campus. If so, the Disability Services office will assist in providing a reasonable accommodation.
- If animal becomes out of control or is deemed a direct threat to the safety of others, handler will be asked to remove the animal from College property.
- If there are any questions or concerns about service animals on campus please contact Disability Services at 815-825-2931 or ds@kish.edu.

Grievances

Any person disagreeing with a College decision on a service animal or emotional support/comfort animal may file a 504 grievance at:

[Grievance Report Link](#)

Visitors to campus

Campus visitors that are not current students or employees may attend any event or service being offered by Kishwaukee College with their service animal. Visitors that would like additional information should contact Disability Services at 815-825-2931 or ds@kish.edu.