

WALLA WALLA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
SERVICE ANIMALS
ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY 2300

I. POLICY BACKGROUND/PURPOSE

Walla Walla Community College (WWCC) complies with the spirit and letter of state and federal laws, regulations and executive orders pertaining to civil rights, equal opportunity and affirmative action, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Fair Housing Act. This policy ensures that students, employees, and visitors with disabilities can participate in and benefit from WWCC services, programs, and activities. This policy specifically addresses use of service animals.

II. AUTHORITY

Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Fair Housing Act, and RCW 49.60.040, 49.60.215 and 7.80.120.

III. SCOPE OF POLICY

This policy applies to any employee, student or visitor of the College.

IV. DEFINITIONS

- A. Disability - physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities. 28 CFR § 35.104.
- B. Service animal as defined by the ADA - Any dog (or miniature horse) that is individually trained 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.
 - 1. The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the handler's disability.
 - 2. Other species of animals, whether wild or domestic, trained or untrained, are not service animals for the purposes of this definition.
 - 3. The crime deterrent effects of an animal's presence and the provision of emotional support, wellbeing, comfort or companionship do not constitute work or tasks for the purposes of this definition.
- C. Handler - a qualified individual with a disability that a service animal assists as an accommodation.
- D. Pet - an animal kept for ordinary use and companionship.

V. POLICY

- A. Service animals, as defined by the ADA, will be exempt from College policies that otherwise prohibit having animals of any type on College property and applies only to facilities owned by the College or under its control.
 - 1. A service animal is not required to wear a vest that indicates the dog is a service animal nor is the handler required to register the animal with someone on campus.
- B. WWCC provides reasonable accommodations to individuals with disabilities whenever there is a disability-related need for the requested accommodation.
 - 1. A disability-related need for a requested accommodation exists when there is an identifiable relationship, or nexus, between the requested accommodation and the individual's disability.

- C. A pet is not considered a service animal and is not covered by this policy or permitted on College premises.
- D. Procedures, responsibilities, and expectations regarding service animals on campus are outlined in Service Animal Administrative Procedure 2300.

<p>Policy Contact: <u>Vice President of Human Resources</u></p> <p>Approved by (Department/Body): <u>Dr. Chad E. Hickox, President</u></p> <p>Date Originally Approved: <u>July 18, 2022</u></p> <p>Last Reviewed/Revised on: _____</p>
