



## **Service Animal and Emotional Support Animal Student Owner/Handler Responsibilities and Consent to Share Information**

North Carolina Central University (“NCCU” or “University”) is committed to accessibility and recognizes the importance of service and emotional support animals (“ESAs”) to individuals with disabilities. NCCU has established guidance in NCCU REG \_\_\_\_\_ (Animals on Campus Regulation) regarding service animals, service animals in training, and ESAs to assist members of the NCCU community with disabilities.

### **Owner/Handler Obligations for Care and Control**

The owner/handler will be held responsible for the safety, health, behavior, and actions of the service animal or ESA at all times. A service animal generally will be permitted to accompany the owner/handler on campus. Approved ESAs are not permitted outside of the owner/handler’s living space and suite common areas, except for:

1. Building entrance and exit;
2. Designated outdoor areas for natural relief; and
3. Outside areas in which campus visitors are permitted to bring pets, in which case the animal must be bound by pet and visitor related policies.

ESAs are NOT permitted in other University buildings, unless the animal also qualifies as a service animal.

A service animal or ESA must not obstruct or disturb any space or activity of an academic program, including but not limited to, residence halls, classrooms, and labs. The animal must not engage in other behaviors or noises that are disruptive to others in the specific environment.

The owner/handler must always carry equipment sufficient to clean up the animal’s waste and must properly pick up and dispose of the waste. Owners/handlers who are not physically able to pick up and dispose of waste are responsible for making all necessary arrangements for assistance. All dogs must be “house broken” and cats must be trained to use a litter box. Other smaller animals must be caged.

NCCU will not assume the care of any animal on campus, even during an emergency. Where an owner/handler fails to care for, control, or attend to his/her animal (including, but not limited to abuse or neglect), NCCU will arrange with the proper authorities to remove the animal from the owner/handler’s custody in accordance with laws and regulations. Animal abuse or neglect may subject the owner/handler to disciplinary action.

An owner/handler may be held responsible for the cost of repairs for damage caused by his/her service animal or ESA.

### **Animal Inspections and Approvals**

All dogs, cats, and ferrets on campus are required to have current rabies vaccines and wear rabies vaccination tags. An ESA approval is animal specific. Thus, a student must follow the request process when requesting a new or different animal.



### **Responsibilities and Etiquette of University Community**

Members of the University community are expected to:

- allow a service animal to accompany its owner/handler at all times and everywhere on campus except where stated or posted;
- not touch or feed a service animal or ESA unless invited to do so;
- not provoke, injure, intentionally startle, or attempt to separate a service animal or ESA from its owner/handler;
- not ask about nature or extent of a person's disability who is accompanied by a service animal or ESA; and
- report any suspected or directly observed animal neglect or abuse to University Police.

### **Provisions Regarding Unattended Animals**

The service animal or ESA must be under the control of the handler at all times and may not be left unattended overnight in residential housing to be cared for by another resident or staff member. When an animal is left unattended in an owner/handler's room for a reasonable period of time, the animal must be stored in a crate, carrier, or kennel.

### **Consequences for Non-compliance**

The owner/handler obligations are ongoing. Any student with a service animal or approved ESA who violates his/her responsibilities stated herein is subject to discipline under the Student Code of Conduct. Such discipline may include the restriction or removal of the animal. NCCU reserves the right to ask an owner/handler to remove a service animal or ESA for non-compliance without initiating a disciplinary proceeding.

***I acknowledge that I have read this form in its entirety and agree to uphold the responsibilities described above. I understand that failure to uphold the responsibilities contained within this form may result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to removal of my service animal or ESA.***

***Student Signature:*** \_\_\_\_\_ ***Date:*** \_\_\_\_\_

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## **Student Consent to Share Information Regarding the Presence of a Service Animal or ESA**

In some situations, it may be necessary for various departments at NCCU to disclose certain information regarding the presence of a service animal or ESA with those individuals who may be impacted by the presence of the animal, including potential and/or actual roommates and neighbors. The information disclosed generally will be limited to information about the animal and not about the owner/handler's disability. This consent is effective for the duration of my time on the campus of NCCU with an approved ESA or service animal.

***I hereby grant NCCU, including but not limited to the Department of Residential Life and Student Accessibility Services, permission to disclose the presence of a University-approved ESA to those parties who may be affected by its presence, including but not limited to, any roommates and persons inhabiting a shared immediate living space.***



*Student Signature:* \_\_\_\_\_ *Date:* \_\_\_\_\_