

Student Emotional Support Animal (ESA) Agreement & Release

Please be advised that all granted requests may be revoked if a student with a support animal does not follow the standards of behavior listed below.

1. The owner is responsible for assuring that the approved animal does not interfere with the routine activities of the residence and any violation of the rules may result in immediate removal of the animal.
2. The owner is financially responsible for the actions of the approved animal, including bodily injury or property damage.
3. The owner's residence may be inspected for fleas, and/or other pests on an as needed basis, if concerns arise. The owner will be billed for any pest treatment above standard pest management.
4. Support animals must remain in the student's residential sleeping area at all times and are not permitted to be in any common space, including, but not limited to living and cooking areas.
5. When "out for normal care" the animal must remain on a leash or harness. Animals are not permitted on University property other than the residence hall. Cleanup of all animal waste must be done immediately and with proper disposal practices.
6. Owners are solely responsible for daily care and food and for all actions of the animal.
7. Animals must not be allowed to disrupt others by barking continuously, growling, scratching, etc.
8. Residents in the possession of therapy animals must take the proper precautions to ensure that other residents and University staff are not harmed from the animal. Any animal that threatens or injures another person on campus will be subject to removal.
9. The owner of an animal who injures another person on campus is fully liable for the actions of the animal. Thomas Jefferson University bears no responsibility for the actions of the animal and shall not be held liable for any injuries that result.

10. The owner may be asked to keep a sign on the door that notifies others that an animal resides in the room and that individuals entering must use caution. Residential Life, Facilities and Security will determine if a sign noting an animal is in the room is applicable.

11. Animals must be taken with the student if they leave for overnight. No animal may be left with another on-campus resident, regardless if the other resident has also received approval for an ESA.

12. All ESA requests apply only to the animal for which a student has been approved. Roommates or friends are not permitted to care for the animal in the owner's absence, including during class or under any other circumstance.

13. ESA Removal:

a) Should the approved animal be removed, the student is expected to fulfill their housing obligations for the remainder of the housing agreement.

b) The student must provide a person(s) that may be contacted to assist in the immediate removal of an animal, should this be necessary. The contact person must be able to get to campus within a few hours.

c) If an animal is considered a direct and substantial threat to the health and safety of individuals, animal control will be summoned to remove the animal immediately.

14. The student agrees to provide the University with medical documentation on the ESA, including confirmation of state and local required vaccinations.

15. The student agrees to "crate" the ESA when the student is not in the room. Dimensions of the crate must not exceed the following dimensions: 38" length/33" width/24" height. The crate must fit under a lofted bed or in an area beside the owner's bed. The crate is not permitted in common living space with roommates. The crate must be of "solid and sturdy" material.

16. Students are asked to maintain appropriate social distancing for their ESAs, including asking others not to pet or hold the animal.

17. The University reserves the right to change these policies and procedures and provide appropriate notice to students.

18. The owner must notify The Office of Student Accessibility Services in writing if the approved animal is no longer needed as an approved animal or is no longer in residence. To replace an approved animal, the student must file a new request.

19. The University may ask a student with a disability to remove an ESA from the premises if the animal is out of control and the student does not take effective action to control it or if the animal is not housebroken.

By my signature below, I verify that I have read, understand and will abide by the guidelines in this policy. This is a release. Please read carefully.

I AGREE TO RELEASE THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY, ITS AFFILIATES AND EACH OF THEIR GOVERNING BOARDS, EMPLOYEES, AND AGENTS (COLLECTIVELY REFERRED TO AS “RELEASEES”), FROM ANY AND ALL LIABILITY, CLAIMS AND ACTIONS THAT MAY ARISE FROM DAMAGE, INJURY OR HARM FROM OR CAUSED BY THE ANIMAL.

Please initial:

- I have read the University’s Emotional Support Animal Policy and Procedures regarding on- campus animal ownership and agree to abide by the guidelines and procedures listed, in addition to any reasonable requests made of me by the University in the future. Initials: _____
- I agree to assume all responsibility for care, control and supervision of the animal that I have registered with the University and that the animal is up to date on all required vaccinations, required by the State of Pennsylvania. (Vet medical report required) Initials: _____
- I assume all liability for injury or damage caused by any preventable actions of my support animal. Initials: _____
- I agree to provide the University with updated medical documentation on the ESA, should this occur while the ESA is on campus. Initials: _____
- I understand that I am responsible to arrange alternative care of my animal (off campus) in case of an emergency. Initials: _____
- I accept responsibility for carrying out all reasonable requests made by my room or apartment mates, other house residents, and/or university staff regarding community and personal health, safety, and comfort directly related to the presence of my animal. Initials: _____
- I understand that animal-related complaints will be investigated by the Dean of Students, Director of Residential Life and Public Safety & Security, with the possibility that sanctions may be imposed. Initials: _____

- I will provide a contact name/address/phone number of a person(s) who live within a few driving hours of the university, in case that an emergency necessitates that the ESA be removed. Initials: _____

Type and Description of animal:

Name of Animal: _____

Student Initials: _____

In signing this Agreement, I acknowledge and represent that I have fully informed myself of the content of the foregoing release provisions by reading it before I sign it, that I understand its terms, that I understand that I sign this document as my own free act and deed, and that no representations, statements, or inducements, apart from the foregoing written statement, have been made to me. I further state that I am at least eighteen (18) years of age and fully competent to sign this Agreement; and that I execute this release for full, adequate, and complete consideration, fully intending to be bound.

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Student Accessibility Services: _____ **Date:** _____

Residence Life: _____ **Date:** _____

Contact Information of person(s) that live within a few driving hours of the university:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Contact: _____

Email: _____