

	Service Animal: Dog or Mini Horse Only	Emotional Support Animal (ESA)	Pet Therapy	Animal Assisted Therapy (AAT)
Definitions	Any dog or miniature horse trained to perform tasks for an individual with a disability. Service animals are working and do not interact with others.	Any species that provides emotional support for individuals with a psychiatric diagnosis to maintain their housing.	A well-trained animal that provides comfort to others, not the handler. Has no special rights and is not covered by the ADA.	Trained clinicians and their therapy pets deliver specialized pet therapy. AAT is focused on improving an individual's functioning.
Regulations	American W/ Disabilities Act	Fair Housing Act	None	None
Access	Go everywhere with the owner	Housing only	No special access	No special access
Training/ Certification	Formally or informally trained to assist an individual with a disability.	No training is required. Needs letter from licensed MH or medical provider	Recommended that the team is certified by a reputable organization like Pet Partners or have Canine Good Citizen & Community Canine Good Citizen certificates from American Kennel Club (AKC)	
Healthcare & Professional Offices	Allowed	Not Allowed	Allowed once approved by the foundation as volunteers and visits have been arranged with the unit manager or designee.	Allowed once approved by the foundation as volunteers and visits have been arranged with the unit manager or designee.
Special Considerations	<u>ONLY ASK:</u> Is this animal required because of a disability? What task has the animal been trained to perform?	Lots of fraud. Vests and badges are unregulated. While many animals are supportive, ESAs help individuals with MH dx maintain their housing.	The patient must give consent. Must not get in the way of medical care. It can be used for staff wellness and team-building activities.	Delivered by or in collaboration with providers. AAT requires that the treatment plan and visit be documented in the EHR. Also, staff wellness and team building.

All animals must be clean, well behaved, remain with the owner, and complete pottying outside the facility. Animals that don't meet these expectations can be asked to leave the facility. They can be barred from future visits as well.

Specifically trained to perform tasks that mitigate a handler's disability.

Provides support and emotional comfort to a handler with a mental illness

Trained to bring comfort and joy to those in a hospital, school or other group care environments

Service Dog



Emotional Support Animal



Therapy Dog

