

SECTION: PROPERTY

TITLE: SERVICE ANIMALS IN SCHOOLS

ADOPTED: MARCH 10, 2016

REVISED:

Palmyra Area School District

719. SERVICE ANIMALS IN SCHOOLS

1. Purpose

The Board adopts this policy to ensure that individuals with disabilities are permitted to participate in and benefit from district programs, activities and services, and to ensure that the district does not discriminate on the basis of disability.

2. Definition
28 CFR
Sec. 35.104

Service animal means any guide dog individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability.

28 CFR
Sec. 35.104

The work or tasks performed by a **service animal** shall be directly related to the individual's disability. Examples of work or tasks include, but are not limited to, assisting individuals who are blind or have low vision with navigation and other tasks, alerting individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing to the presence of people or sounds, providing nonviolent protection or rescue work, pulling a wheelchair, assisting an individual during a seizure, alerting individuals to the presence of allergens, retrieving items such as medicine or the telephone, providing physical support and assistance with balance and stability to individuals with mobility disabilities, and helping persons with psychiatric and neurological disabilities by preventing or interrupting impulsive or destructive behaviors.

28 CFR
Sec. 35.104

The provision of emotional support, well-being, comfort, or companionship does not constitute work or tasks for the purpose of this definition.

3. Authority
43 P.S.
Sec. 953
29 U.S.C.
Sec. 794
42 U.S.C.
Sec. 12101 et seq
28 CFR
Sec. 35.130

The Board shall permit individuals with disabilities to use service animals in district buildings; on district property; and on vehicles that are owned, leased or controlled by the school district, in accordance with this policy and applicable state and federal laws and regulations.

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<p>4. Guidelines</p> <p>Pol. 103.1, 113</p> <p>28 CFR Sec. 35.130</p> <p>28 CFR Sec. 35.136</p> <p>28 CFR Sec. 35.136</p> <p>3 P.S. Sec. 455.1 et seq</p> <p>43 P.S. Sec. 953 28 CFR Sec. 35.136 Pol. 904</p> <p>28 CFR Sec. 35.136</p> <p>28 CFR Sec. 35.136</p>	<p><u>Admission Of Service Animals To Schools</u></p> <p>A student or an employee with a disability may submit a request to bring a service animal to school for educational or employment purposes. A student or employee seeking to bring a service animal to school must comply with the requirements as set forth in this policy and any administrative regulations governing this issue.</p> <p>Parents/Guardians of students with disabilities may submit a request to the building principal for their student to bring a service animal to school. The building principal shall forward the request to the appropriate Section 504 or IEP team. The team shall gather the necessary information and evaluate the request to bring a service animal to school. Any service animal accompanying a student with a disability to school or school activities shall be handled and cared for in a manner detailed in the student's IEP or Section 504 Service Agreement.</p> <p>Before a service animal shall be allowed in a district building, or on district property or vehicles, the district shall request the following documentation from the owner or handler of the animal:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Verification of the need for a service animal. 2. Description of the function(s) the service animal is trained to perform in relation to the individual's disability. 3. Proof of current vaccinations and immunizations of the service animal. <p><u>Admission Of Service Animals To Public Events</u></p> <p>Individuals with disabilities may be accompanied by their service animals while on district property for events that are open to the general public. This right of access does not extend to the schools generally or to other activities that are not open to the general public.</p> <p>School administrators may inquire of the owner or handler of an animal whether the animal is required because of a disability and the specific tasks that the animal has been trained to perform, but shall not ask questions about an individual's disability.</p> <p>The district shall not require an owner or handler of a service animal to pay an extra charge for the animal to attend events for which a fee is charged.</p>
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References:

Rabies Prevention and Control in Domestic Animals and Wildlife Act –
3 P.S. Sec. 455.1 et seq.

Pennsylvania Human Relations Act – 43 P.S. Sec. 953

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act – 29 U.S.C. Sec. 794

Americans With Disabilities Act – 42 U.S.C. Sec. 12101 et seq.

Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability, Title 28, Code of Federal
Regulations – 28 CFR Part 35

Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Regulations, Title 29, Code of
Federal Regulations – 29 CFR Part 1630