Animal Guidelines

- All Service Animals (SAs) and Emotional Support Animals (ESAs) are required to be current on shots, including but not limited to, the first set of basic vaccinations. It is the responsibility of the handler to ensure this before bringing the animal to OSU. At any time while the animal is at OSU, vaccination records may be requested, and the handler will be required to provide them.
- The eligible handler is required to care for the ESA. If the eligible handler will not be in the residence for an extended period of time (more than 6 hours), off-campus care is to be arranged.
- All SAs and ESAs are required to be housebroken before bringing the animal to OSU. Handlers are responsible for clean-up and appropriate disposal of the animals' waste.
- ESAs are required to be otherwise contained when the handler is not in the room (attending class, in the dining hall, etc.). This may include, but is not limited to, a cage, aquarium, crate, etc.
- ESAs and SAs are required to be under the handlers' control at all times. ESAs and SAs are expected to follow the same rules and regulations the handler follows in UHDS (noise, location, etc.) This includes, but is not limited to barking, whining, etc.
- ESAs are only allowed in the eligible handlers' living space, not elsewhere on campus. This is limited to the eligible handlers' room and common living spaces (lounge, kitchen, and bathroom). The ESA must always be accompanied by the handler while in these spaces.
- Cleaning/grooming of SAs and ESAs is not allowed in campus facilities. Off-campus resources are available. Please check local listings for one that meets your needs.
- Live feed for your ESA is not allowed on any of the OSU campuses.
- A local emergency contact, within 30 miles and not living in UHDS, is required if living in a UHDS maintained facility.
- If a student has SA or is approved for an ESA, the student does not automatically qualify for a single room; UHDS will notify roommates/suitemates of an animal.
- In our experience, an established relationship with the animal sets a foundation for success in transitioning an animal to a university housing situation.
- It is the handler's responsibility to teach others how to interact, or not interact, with the ESA.
- If an ESA is contained full-time (e.g., fish, rats, snakes, etc.), it is not required to have basic identification. Otherwise, the animal is required to have identification that must include the name and contact phone of the handler. It should not include the hall or room information for the handler.