

Administrative Regulation

Animals at School

AR 6163.2

Instruction

Use of Animals for Instructional Purposes

Before any student or employee brings an animal to school for an instructional purpose, he/she shall receive written permission from the principal or designee. The principal or designee shall give such permission only after he/she has provided written notification to all parents/guardians of students in the affected class, asking them to verify whether their child has any known allergies, asthma, or other health condition that may be aggravated by the animal's presence. When a parent/guardian has provided notification that his/her child has an allergy, asthma, or other health condition that may be aggravated by the animal, the principal shall take appropriate measures to protect the student from exposure to the animal.

(cf. 3514 - Environmental Safety)

(cf. 5141.21 - Administering Medication and Monitoring Health Conditions)

(cf. 5141.23 - Asthma Management)

All animals brought to school must be in good physical condition and must be appropriately immunized. The teacher shall ensure that the species of animal is appropriate for the instructional purpose and age and maturity of the students.

All animals brought to school shall be adequately fed, effectively controlled, humanely treated, and properly housed in cages or containers suitable for the species. The teacher shall ensure that cages and containers are cleaned regularly and that waste materials are removed and disposed of in an appropriate manner.

(cf. 5141 - Health Care and Emergencies)

(cf. 5142 - Safety)

The teacher shall ensure that students receive instructions regarding the proper handling of and personal hygiene around animals.

(cf. 5141.22 - Infectious Diseases)

All animals are prohibited on school transportation services. (Education Code 39839; 13 CCR 1216)

The above-stated provisions of this regulation do not apply to an individual's use of a service animal.

(cf. 3541.2 - Transportation for Students with Disabilities)

(cf. 5131.1 - Bus Conduct)

Use of Service Animals by Individuals with Disabilities

For an individual with a disability, service animal means any dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks related to the individual's disability and for his/her benefit. For example, for an individual who is blind or has low vision, a service animal would mean a dog that helps him/her with vision, navigation, and other tasks; for an individual who is deaf or hard of hearing, a service animal would mean a dog that alerts him/her to the presence of people or sounds; and for an individual with psychiatric or neurological disabilities, a service animal would mean a dog that assists him/her by preventing or interrupting impulsive or destructive behaviors. (28 CFR 35.104)

Individuals with disabilities shall be permitted to be accompanied by their service animals in all areas of the District's facilities where members of the public, participants in services, programs or activities, or invitees, as relevant, are allowed to go. (Education Code 39839; Civil Code 54.2; 28 CFR 35.136)

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)
 (cf. 3541.2 - Transportation for Students with Disabilities)
 (cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)
 (cf. 6164.6 - Identification and Education Under Section 504)

The Superintendent or designee may ask any individual with a disability to remove his/her service animal from school premises or transportation if the animal is out of control and the animal's handler does not take effective action to control it or the animal is not housebroken. When an individual's service animal is excluded, he/she shall be given an opportunity to participate in the service, program, or activity without having the service animal present. (Education Code 39839; Civil Code 54.2; 28 CFR 35.136)

The Superintendent or designee shall make reasonable modifications in policies, practices, or procedures to permit the use of a miniature horse by an individual with a disability if the miniature horse has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of the individual with a disability, provided that: (28 CFR 35.136)

1. The district's facility can accommodate the type, size, and weight of the horse.
2. The handler has sufficient control of the horse.
3. The horse is housebroken.
4. The horse's presence in the specific facility does not compromise legitimate safety requirements of the facility that are necessary for safe operation.

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