



## **SECTION I: Instruction**

### **IMG-G Service Animals and Other Animals on Campus**

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## **IMG-G Service Animals and Other Animals on Campus**

### **Service Animals:**

A service animal refers to any dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the person's disability, including, but not limited to:

1. Assisting individuals with low vision or blindness;
2. Alerting individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing;
3. Pulling a wheelchair or stabilizing a person's walk;
4. Retrieving items such as medicine, food, or a telephone;
5. Recognizing and assisting a person having a seizure;
6. Informing individuals who may be experiencing flashbacks of emotional trauma;

Subject to some limitations, service animals may accompany students, employees or the general public, throughout Colorado Early Colleges' ("CEC") properties, except in food preparation areas. When a person's disability is obvious, CEC does not require documentation, such as proof that the animal has been certified, trained, or licensed as a service animal. Individuals accompanied by a service animal on CEC property who do not need any other disability-related accommodations are not required to register with CEC.

When it is not obvious that a dog is a service animal, it is recommended that students and employees make an appointment with the school nurse or administration prior to bringing the animal onto CEC property to assist in easing your service animal's transition to campus. Employees should contact their supervisor to go through the accommodation process.

CEC recommends service animals be identifiable by wearing a vest or harness. Service animals must be housebroken (i.e., trained so that it controls its waste elimination, absent illness or accident) and must be kept under control by voice, signals, or other effective means. Service animals must not be disruptive or active in any classroom situation.

CEC will assess requests for the use of miniature horses by people with disabilities on a case-by-case basis. Requests should be submitted to the school nurse, administration, or the employee's supervisor, consistent with applicable laws, CEC may make modifications to its policies to permit their use if they have been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of a person with a disability.

### **Service Animals in Training:**

Colorado law allows dogs on campus who are being trained specifically as service animals for individuals with disabilities. It is recommended that students and employees make an appointment with the school nurse or administration prior to bringing a service animal in training onto CEC property to assist in easing the transition of your service animal in training to campus.

### **Assistance Animals:**

Assistance animals do not qualify as service animals and are generally not allowed to accompany persons with disabilities or other persons on CEC property.

An assistance animal provides emotional or other support that minimizes one or more identified symptoms or effects of a person's disability. These types of animals include therapy animals, emotional support, or comfort animals. Unlike service animals, assistance animals are not required to be trained to perform work or tasks, and they include species other than dogs and miniature horses.

### **Responsibilities of Individuals Using Service Animals:**

Individuals who bring service animals, service animals in training, or unauthorized assistance animals onto CEC property are responsible for the cost, care, and supervision of their service or assistance animals, including:

1. compliance with any laws pertaining to animal licensing, vaccination, and owner identification (all CEC students, employees and regular guests of CEC shall provide the CEC administration proof that the animal has been vaccinated in accordance with applicable law);
2. keeping the animal under control at all times;
3. keep the animal harnessed, leashed, or other wise tethered unless the animal's or handler is unable to do this because of a disability or because the use of a harness, leash, or other tether would interfere with animal's safe, effective performance of work or tasks, in which case animal must be otherwise under the handler's control (e.g., voice control, signals, or other effective means);
4. keep the animal clean and free of fleas, ticks, etc. in order to minimize the health risk to others and help others with allergies to animals; and
5. feeding and walking the animal and disposing of animal waste.

CEC will not require any surcharges or fees related to such animals.

Individuals may be charged for damage caused by any animal.

Individuals with disabilities who are accompanied by such animals must comply with the same CEC rules regarding noise, safety, disruption, and cleanliness as people without disabilities.

CEC will provide assistance to students with service animals who are unable to care for their own animal on a case by case basis.

All persons shall promptly comply with any CEC directive to remove their animal from an area in which it was previously authorized if:

1. it is out of control and effective action is not taken to control it;
2. it is not housebroken; or
3. it poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others that cannot be mitigated by reasonable modifications of policies, practices, or procedures, or the provision of auxiliary aids or services.

### **Guidelines for Members of the CEC Community:**

To ensure equal access and nondiscrimination of individuals with disabilities, members of the CEC community must abide by the following practices:

1. Allow service animals to accompany people with disabilities on campus;
2. Do not ask for details about a person's disabilities;
3. Do not pet, interact, or feed a service animal, as it distracts the animal from its work;
4. Do not deliberately startle, tease, or taunt a service animal;
5. Do not separate or attempt to separate a person from his/her service animal;
6. Provide individuals with service animals with the right of way.

When it is not obvious a dog is a service animal, the CEC administration for the particular CEC property are permitted to make the following inquiries:

1. Is the dog required because of a disability?
2. What work or task has the dog been trained to perform?

CEC is committed to ensuring that the needs of all people with disabilities are met and will determine how to resolve any conflicts or problems as expeditiously as possible.

This policy does not prohibit other animals from entering CEC property that have been approved by CEC administration for academic purposes.

### **Additional Legal Refs:**

*20 U.S.C. § 1400 et seq., 34 C.F.R. part 300 (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)*  
*29 U.S.C. § 794, 34 C.F.R. part 104 (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973)*  
*42 U.S.C. § 12101 et seq., 28 C.F.R. §§ 35.104, 35, 136 (Americans with Disabilities Act)*  
*C.R.S. § 22-36-101 (public schools of choice)*  
*C.R.S. § 24-34-803 (rights of persons with assistance dogs)*

### **Policy Refs:**

*AC-G Nondiscrimination*