

## SERVICE ANIMAL PROCEDURES

The Greene County Schools acknowledges its responsibility to permit students and/or adults with disabilities to be accompanied by a “service dog” in its school buildings, in classrooms, and at school functions, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act, 28 C.F.R. Part 35, subject to the following:

1. All requests for an individual with a disability to be accompanied by a service dog must be addressed in writing to the Director of Schools at 910 West Summer Street, Greeneville, TN 37743, and must contain required documentation of vaccinations. This written request must be delivered to the Director of Schools’ Office at least ten business days prior to bringing the service dog to school or a school function.
2. Owners of a service dog must provide annual proof of the following vaccinations: DHLPPC (Distemper, Hepatitis, Leptospirosis, Paroinfluenza, Parvovirus, Coronavirus), Bordetella, and Rabies.
3. All service dogs must be spayed or neutered.
4. All service dogs must be treated for, and kept free of, fleas and ticks.
5. All service dogs must be kept clean and groomed to avoid shedding and dander.
6. Owners of service dogs are liable for any harm or injury caused by the animal to other students, staff, visitors, and/or property.
7. The animal must be a dog. No other species of animals, whether wild or domestic, will be permitted in schools as a “service animal”.
8. The animal must be “required” for the individual with a disability.
9. The animal must be “individually trained” to do work or a task for the individual with a disability.
10. Removal of a Service Dog: A school administrator may ask an individual with a disability or his/her parent(s) to remove a service dog from a school building, a classroom, or from a school function if any of the following circumstances occurs:
  - a. The dog is out of control and the dog’s handler does not take effective action to control it.
  - b. The dog is not housebroken.
  - c. The dog’s presence would “fundamentally alter” the nature of the service, program, or activity.

If an animal is properly excluded: If a public entity properly excludes a service dog under Sec. 35.136(b), it shall give the individual with a disability the opportunity to participate in the service, program, or activity without having the service dog on the premises. 28 C.F.R. Sec. 35.136(c).
11. A service dog must have a harness, leash, or other tether, unless either the handler is unable because of a disability to use the harness, leash, or other tether, or the use of a harness, leash, or other tether would interfere with the service dog’s safe, effective performance of work or tasks, in which case the service dog must be otherwise under the handler’s control.
12. The Greene County Schools is not responsible for the care or supervision of a service dog, including walking the dog or responding to the dog’s need to relieve itself.

- a. The school system is not responsible for providing a staff member to walk the service dog or to provide any other care or assistance to the animal.**
- b. Students with service dogs are expected to care and supervise their animal. In the case of a young child or a student with disabilities who is unable to care for or supervise his or her service dog, the parent is responsible for providing care and supervision of the animal without interfering with the academic or social learning environment of the classroom. Issues related to the care and supervision of service dogs will be addressed on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the building administrator.**

**Reference: ADA Regulations, 28 C.F.R. Part 35 (as amended, 2010).**