



Emotional Support Animal Policy

Academic Support Services • Center for Campus Life

Augustana University's Campus Life Community Standards states that no animals are permitted in on-campus housing. However, Augustana recognizes the importance of emotional support animals in assisting people with disabilities. The purpose of this policy is to help students understand their rights with respect to the use of emotional support animals and to provide a framework for managing the presence of emotional support animals in the residence halls. As used in this policy, the term student means any individual residing in an Augustana University residence hall, theme house or apartment.

Emotional support animals are to be distinguished from service animals. A service animal is a dog that is trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability. Service animals are permitted anywhere on campus. An emotional support animal, on the other hand, is any animal that is necessary to afford an individual with a disability an equal opportunity to use and enjoy on-campus housing. An emotional support animal is, therefore, only permitted in the individual's assigned residence hall room or apartment and outdoor spaces adjacent to the building, if necessary. Emotional support animals are not permitted in other parts of the residence hall or in other campus buildings.

A student who wishes to have an emotional support animal as an accommodation must first satisfy the Accommodation Process. These procedures are administered by Academic Support Services and can be found at <http://www.augie.edu/academics/academic-support/disability-services>. Among other things, the procedures require the student requesting the accommodation to provide acceptable documentation of an identifiable relationship between the student's disability and the assistance provided by the emotional support animal. To begin the process of requesting such an accommodation, the student should contact Academic Support Services, located in the Student Success Center at 605.274.5503.

Once an emotional support animal has been approved by Academic Support Services, the student must then register the animal with Campus Life. The Campus Life Registration Procedures can be obtained by making an appointment with a Campus Life staff member at 605.274.5215. An emotional support animal that has been approved by Academic Support Services but otherwise does not meet the Campus Life registration requirements will not be permitted in the residence halls. Both processes must be completed before the emotional support animal can begin residence in any on-campus housing facility.

While the emotional support animal is in the community, the student must at all times follow the procedures outlined in the Owner's Responsibilities and Guidelines for Having Emotional Support Animals in Residence Halls (Guidelines). Augustana University reserves the right to require the student to immediately remove an emotional support animal from the residence hall if the requirements of the Guidelines are not met.

A student who has a medical condition that may be affected by the presence of an emotional support animal in his or her residence hall room should contact the Academic Support Services. After consultation, Academic Support Services and Campus Life staff will make arrangements to accommodate such student. A student who has a safety concern about the presence of an emotional support animal in their residence hall room or who simply does not want to reside in the same room as an emotional support animal should contact Campus Life. If possible, Campus Life staff will make arrangements to either relocate the student or the emotional support animal.

Owner's Responsibilities for Having an Emotional Support Animal in Campus Housing

No emotional support animal will be permitted into on-campus housing if it is not approved by Academic Support Services and Campus Life.

- Emotional support animals are solely limited to the owner's assigned residence hall room, apartment or theme house. The owner of the emotional support animal is responsible for maintaining a secure environment and must report any missing emotional support animal immediately to Campus Life staff.
- If required, emotional support dogs must be licensed in accordance with City of Sioux Falls laws and a copy of the license must be submitted to Campus Life prior to the animal being allowed on campus. The City of Sioux Falls requires all dogs and cats over 6 months of age to be licensed and all licenses to be renewed every three years. The owner is responsible for submitting the renewed license to Campus Life.
- Emotional support animals must be in good health and must receive an annual clean bill of health from a licensed veterinarian. The owner must provide proof of such veterinarian visit to the Campus Life office prior to the animal being allowed on campus.
- Dogs and cats must be spayed or neutered. A copy of the official veterinarian's report must be on file with the Campus Life office.
- Collars and tags must be worn by all emotional support animals at all times. Augustana University is not responsible for an animal during a fire alarm, fire drill, or natural disaster.
- The owner of an uncaged emotional support animal must be present in the residence hall room when Augustana University staff or contractors enter the room to perform repairs or maintenance. Work cannot be completed without the owner present.

Behavior Standards for Emotional Support Animals

- The owner of an emotional support animal must follow all city and state animal laws, outlined in the Sioux Falls City Ordinances Chapter 90 located at: (<http://www.siouxfalls.org/police/uniformed/support-services/animal-control.aspx>) and South Dakota Animal Cruelty Laws found at <http://www.sdfact.org>, including but not limited to the following care standards:
 - The owner is responsible for providing food and fresh water, attention and an assessment of the emotional support animal's general health daily.
 - The emotional support animal cannot be left unattended overnight at any time. The owner should take the emotional support animal with him or her or seek care from an off campus provider. The emotional support animal cannot be cared for by another Augustana University resident, including the owner's roommate.
 - The contact information of a local emergency care provider must be given to Campus Life in the event the owner cannot take care of the emotional support animal.
 - The owner is responsible for regular grooming of the emotional support animal, including bathing.
- The owner is responsible for appropriate waste clean-up and overall cleanliness of the emotional support animal.
 - All waste from the room, such as litter or bedding, should be placed in a trash bag and disposed of in the dumpster outside the residence hall immediately. Any waste created outside the residence hall should be removed according to City of Sioux Falls Ordinances and placed in an appropriate dumpster or receptacle.
 - Emotional support animals must be leashed (not exceeding 6 feet in length) or in a carrier at all times outside of the owner's assigned room.
 - Any accidents caused by the emotional support animal in the residence hall must be reported to Campus Life staff promptly to be cleaned with appropriate products.
 - The owner is responsible for routine cleaning of floors, kennels, cages and litter boxes. Any animal-related odors will not be tolerated.
 - The owner of an emotional support animal should take precautions for fleas or ticks with flea medication prescribed by their veterinarian, such as collars or baths. Any flea infestation must be reported immediately and attended by a professional extermination team at the student's expense.
 - No student will be permitted to allow an injured or diseased animal to suffer without immediate proper care. Augustana University reserves the right to require veterinary treatment of a sick or injured animal prior to re-admittance into the halls.
 - Specific species guidelines will be discussed in a meeting with the owner, Campus Life staff member and Academic Support Services representative.
- The emotional support animal owner is responsible for the appropriate management of the animal in their community. Disruptive and/or aggressive behavior, including but not limited to loud noises, biting, scratching, destruction of property, will not be tolerated.

- The owner is responsible for reporting any animal-inflicted injury to themselves, others or other animals within the building. The City of Sioux Falls requires any bite or injury caused by an animal to be reported to Animal Control and Augustana University will adhere to this law.
- The owner of the emotional support animal will not pay a deposit; however, the owner will be liable for any damage repair, excessive cleaning or professional extermination required as a result of the animal.
- For dogs, obedience and training programs are highly recommended.
- Augustana University cannot guarantee that other animals are not housed within the same community. Students must take steps to socialize their animal or take precautions to avoid other animals when moving through the building.

Removal of an Emotional Support Animal

Augustana University reserves the right to remove an animal from the residence hall if:

- The animal poses a direct health or safety threat to the owner or others;
- The owner does not comply with the standards outlined above;
- The owner fails to seek veterinary attention for a sick or injured animal; or
- The animal causes disturbances affecting the community in which the owner resides.



Emotional Support Animal Procedure Acknowledgement and Information Form

This form must be submitted and approved by Campus Life prior to the animal occupying the assigned space.

Resident Name _____ ID _____

Animal Type _____ Animal Breed _____

Animal Name _____

HEALTH AND LICENSING INFORMATION (All documentation must be submitted at the time of submission)

Most Recent Rabies Vaccination Date _____

Spay or Neuter Date _____

Certificate of Health Date _____

City of Sioux Falls Licensure Date _____

Local Emergency Contact for Animal Care _____

Emergency Contact Phone Number _____

I acknowledge having read the service and emotional support animal procedure and agree to abide by all the conditions.

Signature of Resident

Signature of Director of Campus Life

Date _____

Hall/ Room Number _____

Documentation Attached:

Rabies Vaccination

Spay/ Neuter Confirmation

Certificate of Health

City of Sioux Falls Licensure Information