



Center for Accessibility Resources • 6500 Pacific Blvd. SW, RCH105 • Albany, OR 97321
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EMOTIONAL SUPPORT ANIMAL GUIDELINES

Emotional Support Animals (ESA) are only allowed in Linn-Benton Community College classrooms as an approved accommodation through the Center for Accessibility Resources (CFAR).

ESA provide a sense of safety, companionship and comfort to those with psychiatric or emotional disabilities or conditions. Although these animals often have therapeutic benefits, they are not individually trained to perform specific tasks for their handlers, or limited to working with people with disabilities, and therefore are not covered by federal laws protecting the use of service animals under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Students wishing to bring an ESA on campus must [apply for accommodations](#) with CFAR, submit our [Emotional Support Animal Eligibility Form](#) and engage in an interactive intake process to determine if an ESA is an appropriate approved accommodation. Students can contact the Center for Accessibility Resources for more information.

Guidelines Regarding Emotional Support Animals

How will ESA be identified?

Once approved as an accommodation, CFAR will send a badge request to LBCC's Public Safety office for the ESA. The badge will have the animal's picture and name on it, along with the words CFAR Approved Emotional Support Animal.

Will the ESA need to wear identification card or jacket/vest?

No. The approved ESA identification badge does not need to be displayed or worn by the animal but must remain on the student's person at all times when accompanied by the ESA in any LBCC classroom. The ESA does not need to wear any identifying jacket/vest either.

How will staff know the animal is an approved ESA?

When it is not obvious if an animal is a service animal, ESA or pet, limited inquiries are allowed. Staff cannot ask about a person's disability or require medical documentation.

Staff members may ask: Is that a service animal? And if so, what service does it provide?

In this case, the student would reply, "No, it is an approved Emotional Support Animal and I have an identification badge."

The student must present the identification badge at this time, or upon any request by a LBCC staff member to prove the emotional support animal is an approved accommodation through CFAR.

Failure to present the approved identification badge may result in the student being asked to remove the animal from the classroom, and to obtain proper approval through the Center for Accessibility Resources before returning with the animal.

What are the control requirements for the ESA?

The animal must be harnessed, leashed, or tethered at all times while on campus. The handler must be in control of the animal at all times. The animal must be as unobtrusive as possible.

There are certain instances when it may be considered unsafe for animals in such places as medical facilities, laboratories, mechanical rooms or any other place where the safety of the animal or partner/handler may be threatened. If this situation arises, faculty and students are to notify CFAR.

What if the animal is out of control?

If the animal becomes out of control, and the animal's handler does not take immediate, effective action to regain control of the animal, faculty and staff can send a conduct referral to the Dean of Students. The person still has the opportunity to participate in college programs, classes, offerings, and facilities. If in doubt staff can contact CFAR.

Exclusions and/or consequences for behavior:

ESA may be excluded from the campus when that animal's behavior does not conform to public etiquette or poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others.

Other consequences may include, but not be limited to, muzzling a barking animal and/or refresher training for both the animal and student.

For More Information:

Students, Employees and Guests:

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Student Rights and Responsibilities

<https://www.linnbenton.edu/about-lbcc/administration/policies/student-rights-responsibilities-and-conduct.php>

Americans with Disabilities

800-514-0301 (voice) and 800-514-0383 (TTY)
<http://www.ada.gov/>