



# Faulkner University

A CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

## Assistance Animals in University Housing Policy and Form

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In compliance with the "Fair Housing Act" (42 U.S.C. 3601 et seq. as amended) and its implementing regulations (24 CFR Part 100 et seq.), Faulkner University provides reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities who have a verifiable need in order that a resident with a disability may have an equal opportunity to use and enjoy University housing.

The request will be reviewed to determine whether such request (1) constitutes a reasonable accommodation for a student with a documented disability; and (2) the animal is necessary to afford the student with a disability an equal opportunity to use and enjoy Faulkner University owned housing; and (3) there is an identifiable relationship or nexus between the student's disability and the assistance the animal provides (i.e., that the animal provides supports that alleviates at least one of the identified symptoms or effects of the disability). A request will not, however, be granted if the animal poses a direct threat to the health and safety of others; would cause substantial physical damage to the property of others; would pose undue financial and administrative burden; or would fundamentally alter the nature of Faulkner University's housing operations.

The *Assistance Animals in University Housing Policy and Form* and *On Campus Animal Veterinarian Certification Form* must be completed and approved by the Center for Disability Services (CDS) PRIOR to moving the animal into University housing.

**Student Name and Student ID** \_\_\_\_\_ **DOB** \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 1: Verification of Disability (Please complete and attach additional pages to supply complete data, if needed.)**

1. Does the student have a disability under this definition?  Yes  No

2. Name and contact information of the person verifying that named student has a disability:

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3. What is the basis for your assertion that the named student has a disability; please be specific:

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4. Please identify the student's impairment(s) and describe how the impairment(s) substantially limits his/her ability to perform a major life activity as compared to most people in the general population:

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Affiliated Organization

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

October 3, 2017

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**Section 2: How the Accommodation of an Assistance Animal Is Directly Linked to the Disability (Please complete and attach additional pages to supply complete data, if needed.)**

Please note: "reliable documentation" of a disability-related need for an emotional support therapy/comfort animal is appropriate documentation provided from one or more of the following: psychiatrist, licensed clinical psychologist, licensed professional counselor, licensed clinical social worker, or other appropriately licensed mental health professional.

1. Describe how the Assistance Animal provides emotional support that alleviates one or more of the identified symptoms or effects of an existing disability; please be specific.

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2. Describe how the accommodation of an Assistance Animal is necessary for the student to use and enjoy University housing as compared to a person without a disability; please be specific:

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Licensure/Certification Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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**Section 3: Assistance Animal Information**

Please note: Student must provide the *On Campus Animal Veterinarian Certification Form* as a separate document.

1. Assistance Animal type and description:

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2. Veterinarian Information

Name of regular veterinarian: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Section 4: Assistance Animal General Policies and Guidelines**

An infraction of any of the following behaviors or policies may result in the exclusion of the Assistance Animal from campus property. As a general rule, Assistance Animals should be contained to the housing area or its immediate vicinity. Assistance Animals are permitted in the University Housing lobby areas only when transitioning from indoors to outdoors or vice versa.

*Compliance with City Ordinances/Laws.* All individuals must abide by current State laws/regulations and city ordinances pertaining to licensing and vaccination requirements for animals. In some cases, State law makes it illegal to own certain types of animals. It is the responsibility of the owner and/or user of the animal to know about and comply with these ordinances and/or laws, some of which are noted below.

*Immunization.* An Assistance Animal must be immunized when three months of age and annually thereafter. Proof of such immunization is required. For animals that are capable of contracting rabies, current rabies vaccination tags must be attached to a collar or harness worn by the Assistance Animal.

*License or Documentation.* An Assistance Animal does not have to be licensed or certified as a service animal. Licensing or certification as a support animal is neither sufficient nor necessary to establish that the animal is a support animal.

*Control in Public Areas.* The care and supervision of the Assistance Animal is the responsibility of the owner.

Assistance Animals must not engage in unacceptable or disruptive behavior that is disruptive to other participants within the program or facility. If an animal does engage in unacceptable behavior, the owner is expected to use proper training techniques to correct the behavior. The University may ask the owner to remove an Assistance Animal from the premises if the animal is out of control and/or disruptive and the owner does not take effective action to control it. The University may bar the animal from the facility until significant steps (such as additional training for the animal and owner) are taken to mitigate the behavior.

*Hygiene and Cleanliness.* Assistance Animals must be clean. Daily grooming and occasional baths should be utilized to keep animal odor to a minimum. Adequate parasite prevention and control must be maintained. If an Assistance Animal's odor is offensive to other individuals, the owner will be directed to bathe the Assistance Animal prior to returning to the facility when appropriate. Repeated occurrences may result in the Assistance Animal being temporarily barred from the facility until steps are taken to comply with the rules regarding cleanliness. An Assistance Animal that cannot be bathed and has a continual offensive odor may be excluded from campus property.

*Cleanup Rule.* Owners must clean up after the Assistance Animal. If a disability prevents the owner from cleaning up after the service animal, this information must be provided to Center for Disability Services. In such cases, the student remains responsible for arranging the required clean up; the University is not required to provide such personal services.

The University may ask the owner to remove an Assistance Animal from the premises if the animal is not housebroken or, in the case of a support animal that uses a designated cage or litter box, the owner fails to clean such cage or box such that the cleanliness of the room is not maintained.

*Animal Health.* All Assistance Animals to be housed in University owned housing must have an annual clean bill of health from a licensed veterinarian.

*Expense and Care.* The care, arrangements and responsibilities for the Assistance Animal, and the costs associated with the same, are the sole responsibility of the owner at all times.

Damages. Assistance Animal owners are financially responsible for the actions of the Assistance Animal including bodily injury, property damage, cleaning and/or replacement of furniture, carpet, blinds, and any and all other damages which may arise. ASSISTANCE ANIMALS OWNERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR INDEMNIFYING AND HOLDING HARMLESS THE UNIVERSITY AND/OR ITS EMPLOYEES FROM ALL CLAIMS OF LIABILITY OR DAMAGES RESULTING FROM OR RELATED TO ACTIONS OF THE ASSISTANCE ANIMAL.

A student dissatisfied with a decision concerning an Assistance Animal as a reasonable accommodation in University owned housing may complete the University Student Complaint Record and provide it to the Center for Disability Services: <https://www.faulkner.edu/wp-content/uploads/Student-Complaint-Record-Non-Academic.pdf>

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I acknowledge that I am responsible for complying with the above general policies and guidelines, and that my failure to comply with same may result my ineligibility to have an Assistance Animal. I AGREE TO INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS THE UNIVERSITY AND/OR ITS EMPLOYEES FROM ALL CLAIMS OF LIABILITY OR DAMAGES RESULTING FROM OR RELATED TO ACTIONS OF THE ASSISTANCE ANIMAL.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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For Office Use Only:

Date received in CDS: \_\_\_\_\_

Accommodation approved :  Yes     No

If yes, effective date and duration: \_\_\_\_\_