



Policy Title: Animals on University Property	Effective Date: 12/1/2017
Policy Number: GENPO-1004	Date of Last Review: 4/19/2022
Oversight Department: Office of the President	Next Review Date: 4/1/2025

1. PURPOSE

The Animals on University Property Policy for Radford University (University) establishes the requirements concerning animals being brought on University property.

2. APPLICABILITY

The Animals on University Property Policy applies to all members of the University community, all University property, and all animals owned or controlled by any person. Additional requirements may apply to property leased or otherwise controlled (i.e. not owned) by the University, which must be complied with by all members of the University community when using such property.

3. DEFINITIONS

Controlled Space: For the purpose of this policy, any indoor area (e.g. buildings, offices, facilities, etc.) owned, leased or controlled by the University and any outdoor area owned, leased, controlled by the University with limitations on use or access (e.g. practice fields, tennis courts, etc.). Public areas (eg. streets, lawns, sidewalks, parking lots, etc.) with no limitations on access are not controlled spaces.

Division Head President, Provost, or applicable Vice President

Handler: The owner of, user of, or person bringing a service animal, support animal, or pet on University property.

Pet: Any animal that is not trained or employed as a service or support animal for the handler.

Service Animal: Any dog or on rare occasion, a miniature horse specifically trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of and to accommodate the functional needs of a person with a disability. This includes any dog in training to become a service animal.

Support Animal: An animal, sometimes referred to as an emotional support or therapy animal, which provides comfort or support to a person with a disability. These animals do not have to be trained to perform a specific task.

Therapy Animal: An animal who is under the direction of a licensed mental health professional, or a specifically trained qualified handler and utilized for therapeutic purposes or other approved University programs as approved by a Division Head.

University Community For the purpose of this policy, all persons who are employees, students, contractors, volunteers, and visitors, including invited guests, of the University

University Property All land, buildings, facilities, and other property owned, leased, or controlled by the University

4. POLICY

A. General Prohibition

Animals, including pets, are prohibited in all controlled spaces of the University except as provided under this policy

B. Service Animals

1. Radford University welcomes the presence of service animals assisting people with disabilities in areas open to the public consistent with the provisions of this policy and applicable law.
2. A service animal is generally permitted to be on University property in any place where the animal's handler is permitted to be, although there are specific locations and activities where all animals are prohibited for safety and health reasons. These areas include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Research and teaching laboratories (or other research facilities)
 - b. Mechanical rooms and custodial closets
 - c. Food service preparation areas
 - d. Areas where protective clothing is necessary
 - e. Areas where there is a danger to the service animal and/or handler
3. Access to the restricted areas listed above may be granted on a case-by-case basis by the Director of Environmental Health and Safety, or the department chair responsible for the restricted area, as most appropriate.
4. Members of the University community are prohibited from interfering in any way with a service animal or the duties it performs.

C. Support Animals and Pets

A support animal or pet may be permitted to live in the University residence of the animal's handler as approved under the required procedures (see Section 5). However, a support animal or pet is not allowed in any other controlled space of the University.

D. Handlers' Responsibilities

1. A service animal, support animal, or pet must

serviceanimal, supportanimal, or pet to be impounded by the Radford University Police Department

2. Support Animals and Pets

- a. An employee who resides on University property and wishes to keep a support animal in their assigned University residence must make a request for accommodation to the Department of Human Resources in accordance with their procedures.
- b. An employee who resides on University property and wishes to keep a pet in their assigned University residence must request permission from the appropriate University department or office that has oversight for the residence.
- c. An employee residing in a University residence is not authorized to bring a support animal or pet into any other controlled space of the University, including the employee's work area.

B. Students

1. Service Animals

- a. A student who brings a service animal on University property does not need to request the University's permission.
- b. The student must, however, notify the University of the service animal's presence prior to coming on University property. Notification should be made to the [Center for Accessibility Services](#).

[Code of Virginia, Title 3.2, Chapter 6](#), “Comprehensive Animal Care”

[Code of Virginia, Title 18.2, Chapter 8, Article 6](#), “Offenses Involving Animals”

[Code of Virginia, Title 51.5, Chapter 8](#), “Rights of Persons with Disabilities”

[Radford, Virginia, Code of Ordinances, Part II, Chapter 19](#), “Animals and Fowl”

9. INTERPRETATION

The authority to interpret this policy rests with the President.