



Cornell University

Student Disability Services

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Emotional Support Animal Agreement

The student handler (“student”) identified below has been approved by Student Disability Services (“SDS”) for the disability accommodation of having the listed Emotional Support Animal (“ESA”) live with them in Cornell-owned housing:

Student Name: _____ Student ID: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Campus Address: _____

Kind of Animal: _____ Name of Animal: _____

Physical Description of Animal: _____

ESA DEFINITION: For the purposes of disability accommodation at Cornell, an ESA is an animal that is recommended by a healthcare or a mental health professional to provide emotional support to a person with a disability who has a disability-related need for such support. An ESA, unlike a service animal, may not accompany a person with a disability beyond the residential setting (e.g., to academic buildings, libraries, or dining halls) without prior written approval from SDS.

In accepting the accommodation of an ESA, the student is responsible for the following:

- Complying with all University rules regarding noise, safety, disruption, and cleanliness. The student must ensure that the ESA does not create persistent odor, noise, or disturbance.
- Keeping the ESA Approval sign provided by SDS posted on the inside of the door or the room or unit where the ESA lives.
- Assuring that the ESA is housebroken. The student must remove, or arrange for the removal of, the ESA’s waste and dispose of all waste in a timely and appropriate manner, as determined by Cornell building care staff.
- Assuring that when the ESA leaves the room/housing unit, it is restrained on a leash not longer than six feet or transported in an appropriate animal carrier. If the ESA is on a leash, it must wear a prominently displayed identification tag.
- Assuring that the ESA is not left unattended for any unreasonable amount of time. (The amount of time this ESA can be left unattended is _____). This amount of time will be decided by Cornell in consultation with the student and a faculty member from the Cornell University Hospital for Animals.
- Assuring that the ESA remains up to date with appropriate immunizations and vaccinations and, when applicable, wears a rabies vaccination tag. Current immunizations and vaccinations records must be submitted to the SDS with the Agreement and updated as necessary.
- Complying with municipality, county, and state animal control and licensing laws.
- Informing SDS within 10 days that the ESA is no longer living with the student.
- Informing SDS if making any room or roommate changes, at which time the student must complete a new ESA Agreement with SDS.

The following are some, but not all, circumstances which will prompt Cornell to withdraw its consent for the ESA:

- Cornell determines that the student is mistreating or neglecting the ESA.
- Cornell determines that the ESA poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others.
- Cornell determines that the student has not complied with the terms of this Agreement.
- Cornell determines that the ESA’s presence is causing a fundamental alteration of Cornell’s program or operations.
- Cornell determines that the ESA creates an unmanageable disturbance or interference.

Cornell requires the student to designate an alternate caregiver to care for the animal in the event the student is unavailable due to an emergency. That alternate caregiver is responsible for fulfilling all obligations of the student set forth within this document for the entire duration of time that the student is unavailable.

Alternate Caregiver Name: _____ Signature _____

Phone number: _____ Email address: _____

Address: _____

In an emergency when the student is unavailable, Cornell will attempt to contact the alternate caregiver. If the alternate caregiver is unavailable, Cornell will arrange with the Tompkins County SPCA or a local private boarding facility to care for the ESA at the sole expense of the student. The student will be responsible for paying all fees associated with such emergency care for the ESA, including, but not limited to, transportation and boarding fees.

Roommate Agreement: As the roommate/suitemate of the student with the ESA. I agree that the ESA designated herein may live with us in our residence hall/unit.

Name: _____

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

Student Agreement: In addition to agreeing to abide by the requirements outlined in this agreement, I also agree to indemnify and hold harmless Cornell from any liability for injury to any person or property which be caused in whole or part by the presence or actions of the ESA, during the time that the ESA is on Cornell-owned or operated premises. In addition, as with anyone living in campus housing, I agree to pay for property damage beyond normal wear and tear or for necessary cleaning above and beyond the standard cleaning of the room. If Cornell is required to treat the living area for fleas, ticks, or other pests, I also agree to pay for the expenses of pest treatment if it is beyond the treatment normally used in University Housing when ESAs are not present.

This agreement is in effect from _____ through _____. This agreement must be renewed yearly or if housing arrangements change during the period covered by this Agreement.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

SDS Staff Signature: _____ Date: _____