

Emotional Support Animal (ESA) Process for Students

This process is an interim measure while the comprehensive policy is being finalized. Once the finalized policy is complete, individuals with approved ESAs will receive the updated version for their review and signature.

Purpose

This process outlines the procedures for students registered and approved through SAS for the accommodation of an of Emotional Support Animal (ESA) on campus. Brown University complies with the Fair Housing Act, permitting approved ESAs as accommodations in university housing.

Key Definitions

Emotional Support Animal (ESA): Provides emotional support to alleviate symptoms of a disability; does not require specific training. ESAs are restricted to residence halls and not permitted in other campus areas.

Owner: A student with a disability approved to have an ESA.

SAS (Student Accessibility Services): The office responsible for reviewing ESA requests and supporting students.

Owner Responsibilities

1. **Containment & Control:**
 - ESAs must remain in the owner's residence hall room except during transport.
 - The animal must either be in the owner's room or in a suitable container if the owner is not present with the animal.
 - Animals must leave campus with the student if the student departs overnight or during any University breaks
2. **Care & Maintenance:**
 - Ensure the ESA's hygiene and well-being, including waste disposal.
 - Cover all associated costs (care, damages, etc.).
3. **Annual Renewal:**
 - ESA accommodations must be renewed each academic year through SAS.

4. Compliance:

- Animals should not be brought to campus prior to approval being granted.
- Notify SAS if the ESA is no longer needed or replaced.
- Adhere to local licensing and vaccination laws.
- Abide by Residential Life and SAS policies.

University Responsibilities

1. Approved ESAs:

- ESAs are allowed to reside with their owners within the approved university housing.

2. Addressing Issues:

- SAS collaborates with Residential Life to manage roommate concerns or allergy issues.

3. Reporting Problems:

- Staff and students can report misbehavior or concerns to SAS and the Office of Residential Life.
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Special Considerations

- ESAs are restricted to the residence hall where the owner resides and cannot access classrooms, dining areas, other residence halls, or other campus buildings.
 - Concerns will be handled on a case-by-case basis. SAS will collaborate with Residential Life to notify known roommates and/or suitemates about the presence of an emotional support animal, to address issues such as allergies or fears. Any concerns during the academic year should be reported promptly.
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Disruptions & Complaints

Animals may be asked to leave campus or not be allowed on campus if:

- They are out of control, unclean, unhousebroken, or pose a safety or health risk.
- Repeated complaints are received and the owner fails to address issues.

Complaint Process

- First Complaint: A written warning is issued.
- Second Complaint: SAS assesses the impact and may work with the Office of Residential Life to reassign housing.
- Third Complaint: The animal may be removed from campus.

Treatment of Animal

- Students are responsible for not leaving the emotional support animal unattended for an unreasonable length of time.
 - Mistreatment or harm to the animal, or harm of others caused by animal may result in immediate removal of the ESA.
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Approval Process

1. **Eligibility:**
 - Students must have a disability as defined by the ADA and register with SAS.
2. **Request Submission:**
 - ESA approval requires an individualized assessment by SAS.
3. **Ongoing Requirements:**
 - Notify SAS of any changes regarding the ESA.

Students approved for an Emotional Support Animal (ESA) in a Brown University residence must sign below, confirming that they have read and agree to all the policies outlined in this document.

Print Name

Signature

Date