



**1.0 TITLE:** Service Animals on Campus

**2.0 PURPOSE:** La Roche College is committed to ensuring that all qualified individuals with disabilities have an opportunity to take part in campus educational programs and services on an equal basis. This policy is intended to reflect La Roche College's commitment to the principles, goals, and ideals described in the College's Mission Statement.

**3.0 REVISION HISTORY:** New

**4.0 PERSONS AFFECTED:** Students with documented disabilities and medical conditions.

**5.0 POLICY:**

1. In accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 as amended, all qualified La Roche College students with disabilities have full access to institutional programs, activities, and services and are provided opportunities and reasonable accommodations and services to ensure access.
2. La Roche College is committed to allowing individuals with disabilities the use of a Service Animal on campus to facilitate their full-participation and equal access to the College's programs and activities.

**6.0 DEFINITIONS:**

- **Service Animals:** The ADA, as amended, defines a Service Animal as "an animal that does work or performs tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability" (including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, cognitive, or mental disability). Emotional Support Animals, assistance animals, and or comfort animals are not Service Animals and are addressed in the College's Emotional Support Animal Policy. Other than dogs, the only type of animal that can be considered a service animal under the ADA as amended is a miniature horse, though miniature horses may be subject to somewhat greater restrictions than Service Dogs. Given the rarity of the use of miniature horses as service animals, in the rest of this policy, "Service Animals" will be used when referring to service dogs.
- **Owner:** The "Owner" is the individual student with a disability who is supported by the Service Animal.

**7.0 AUTHORITY:** Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 as Amended. The authority to enforce this policy is with the Vice President of Academic Affairs/Academic Dean who may designate this authority to the Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs and/or the Coordinator of Accessibility and Compliance.

## **8.0 PROCEDURES:**

8.1 Students with disabilities who require a Service Animal on-campus are requested to self-identify as a person with a disability to the Coordinator of Accessibility and Compliance as soon as possible after deciding to enroll at the College. The Coordinator of Accessibility and Compliance will provide information on expectations for the Service Animal to the student and communicate to other college community members to ease the transition of the student.

8.2 A Service Animal may accompany the individual with a disability everywhere on campus except in rare situations where safety may be compromised or where a Service Animal may interfere with the fundamental nature of the activities being conducted. Service Animals may not pose a direct threat to the health and safety of persons on the college campus, cause physical damage to property, or fundamentally alter the nature of the College operations.

8.3 For students living in the College Residence Halls with a Service Animal, the College requests that the student provide as much advance notice as possible prior to the desired move-in date so that College can best accommodate the student and the animal. A meeting may be arranged between the student, the Coordinator of Accessibility and Compliance, and a Housing and Residence Life staff member to discuss how to best accommodate the student, the Service Animal and the campus community.

8.4 The Service Animal must be under the control of the student at all times. Service Animals must be harnessed, leashed, or tethered, unless these devices interfere with the Service Animal's work or the individual's disability prevents using these devices. In the latter cases, the individual must maintain control of the Service Animal through voice, signal, or other effective controls.

8.5 The student must provide care and supervision of the Service Animal. The College is not responsible for the animal's care or supervision. All owners are responsible to clean up after and properly dispose of their animal's waste.

8.6 It is the Owner's responsibly to ensure that the Service Animal is in good health, clean, free of fleas and ticks, and is at all times in compliance with all State and local laws and requirements in association with licensing, vaccinations, and other health regulations.

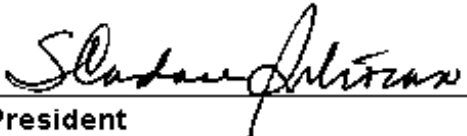
8.7 The Service Animal's behavior, noise, odor and waste must not exceed reasonable standards for a well-behaved animal. These factors should not create unreasonable disruptions for other students. If the noise (whining or barking) is excessive as judged by Accessibility Services or Housing and Residence Life staff, it is grounds to remove the Service Animal from campus.

8.8 The student, not the College, is responsible for the actions of the Service Animal, including bodily injury or property damage. Students with Service Animals are likely to be charged if additional cleaning or damage occurs as a result of having the Service Animal on campus. The student is expected to pay these costs upon repair or cleaning.

8.9 Service Animals may be excluded from the College campus if the Service Animal behaves in an unacceptable way and/or the student does not control the Service Animal.

8.10 If the Service Animal is properly excluded from campus by the College, Coordinator of Accessibility and Compliance must give the student an opportunity to obtain goods, services and accommodations without having the Service Animal on College property.

**9.0 CONTINUOUS RENEWAL:** This policy shall be assessed in three years from its effective date to determine its effectiveness and appropriateness. This policy may be assessed before that time to reflect substantive change.

  
President

Effective Date: 4/19/2017

**10.0 RELATED POLICIES:** Emotional Support Animals in Residence Halls