



Restrictions on Service and Emotional Support Animals for Students, Faculty, Staff, and Visitors

George Mason University ("George Mason") is committed to providing equal access to employment and educational opportunities for persons with disabilities. As a part of this commitment, George Mason recognizes that individuals with disabilities may need reasonable accommodations to participate fully in our education programs and activities and employment. Service Animals are one such possible reasonable accommodation and are generally allowed complete access to the campus with their owner. However, certain situations require that the service animal not be present. This document seeks to clarify these situations and provide clear parameters. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact George Mason's American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator via ada@gmu.edu. There may be other restrictions on access for Emotional Support Animals (ESA); please contact Disability Services (students) or ADA (faculty, staff, visitors), for additional information.

- A. Hazardous Work Conditions** - The Service and Emotional Support Animals must be kenneled locally (away from or outside the hazard) or at the designated kennel location(s) when the individual is working/located:
1. In a permit required confined spaces
 2. In an area where energized electrical equipment is present or may be present (e.g. Arc Flash or electrical shock/burn hazard)
 3. Within the bucket or caged area of a bucket truck or aerial lift
 4. In an enclosed area (room, laboratory) where hazardous materials are actively used (e.g., chemical, biological, radiological)
 5. Where respiratory, eye, hearing protection or other Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is required (per Job Safety Analysis (JSA), existing hazard, at the direction of their supervisor, or in accordance with university safety plans, procedures, or guides)
 6. Other conditions deemed hazardous by the individual
 7. Other questionable conditions should be discussed ahead of time with an employee's supervisor or with the ADA Coordinator (for employees) or Disability Services (for students) in conjunction with Risk, Safety, and Resilience (RSR).
- B. Prohibited Areas** - The Service and Emotional Support Animals are not permitted to enter the following spaces:
1. Food preparation spaces
 2. Restricted areas (see RSR Restricted Spaces memo)
 3. Biomedical Research Laboratory property including all areas inside the perimeter fence

4. Animal research facilities
5. Areas that are required to be sterile (e.g., medical or research)

C. State Owned Vehicles

1. If a service or emotional support animal accompanies an individual in a university vehicle, the service animal must be restrained or controlled in such a way as to prohibit interference with the operation of the vehicle.

D. Inherent Assumption of Risk

1. The owner of service and/or emotional support animals assume responsibility for the animal while on university property and any property damage or bodily harm caused by their presence.