



NEBRASKA COLLEGE OF  
TECHNICAL AGRICULTURE

## **NCTA Privately Owned Animal Policy and Guidelines**

### **Purpose**

- NCTA is all about animals, veterinary medicine and agriculture. The use of animals provides an essential and unique learning opportunity, teaching skills as well as compassion in a way not possible without the animals themselves. Just as the college owned animals are critical to the student's education, privately owned animals are important to each of us and are often practically family. As a result NCTA strives to be an animal and pet friendly campus and to ensure the health and safety of animals and people on the NCTA campus,

### **NCTA Permitted Privately Owned Animals on Campus**

- Privately owned animals are encouraged on campus as appropriate.
- IACUC, Biosecurity, ADA, Resident Hall, Division, Clubs and Association policies must be followed.
- Animals being brought on campus for educational, association or club purposes must have the permission of the instructor or sponsor.
- Animals must not be unsupervised or act threatening towards other animals or people.

### **Canines – Good citizenship**

- Check in at the Veterinary Technology Building or the Extension office for 4-H activities.
- Dogs need to be vaccinated against rabies, distemper, leptospirosis, hepatitis, parvo and parainfluenza as appropriate for their age.
- Unless needed off leash for the activity they are participating in, dogs need to be kept on-leash.
- When housed for a short period of time in vehicles or trailers environmental temperature must be taken into consideration. Remember that cars and trucks can get VERY hot very quickly.
- When transporting dogs they should NOT be loose in the back of a pickup!
- When walking dogs remember to take along a "poop bag" and clean up after them.
- The City of Curtis has a leash law and dogs must be current on Rabies vaccinations and licensed.
- Licenses can be obtained at the Curtis City Office located in the Community Center
- Medicine Valley Veterinary Hospital serves as the local animal shelter

### **Cats – Safety First**

- Check in at the Veterinary Technology Building or the Extension office for 4-H activities.
- Cats need to be vaccinated against Rabies, Panleukopenia, Rhinotracheitis as appropriate for their age.
- When transporting a cat in a car or from one location to another the safest method for the cat and people is to have the cat in a carrier.

**Equine**

- ALL horses arriving on campus must check in at the Livestock Teaching Center (LTC).
- All horses must follow current BIOSECURITY, vaccination and health requirements pertinent for the class and purpose on campus.
- Every rider, student or not, riding anywhere on NCTA property must sign a waiver of liability whether participating in an event or not.
- No student will be allowed to ride their own horse on campus except when riding in a scheduled practice or class and in such cases, prior approval from the coach/instructor is required.
- There are several people in the community that will board horses.

**Hoof Stock / Production animals**

- ALL new livestock arriving on campus must check in at the Livestock Teaching Center (LTC).
- All livestock must follow current BIOSECURITY and health requirements pertinent for the species, class and purpose on campus.

**Residential Halls**

- Non dangerous fish in a maximum 10 gallon tank are allowed.
- Hermit crabs in a maximum 10 gallon tank are allowed.
- Contact the Resident Life Manager for more information.

**Service Animals**

- Contact NCTA Student Services/ADA at 308.367.5217 and see attached policy.

**Assistant Animals**

- Contact NCTA Student Services/ADA at 308.367.5217 and see attached policy and application.
- Assistant Animals are allowed only in the resident hall where they live. They cannot normally attend classes, activities or be in the cafeteria.

**Exceptions**

- NCTA Employees living on campus.
- Students with proper ADA documentation for a service or assistant animal.

## ASSISTANCE ANIMALS

### Responsibilities for an Assistance Animal

#### Assistance Animals:

An Assistance Animal must be contained within the privately assigned student living accommodations (room, suite, apartment, etc.) except to the extent the student is taking the animal out for natural relief. When an Assistance Animal is outside the private student living accommodations, it must be in an animal carrier or controlled by a leash or harness. Assistance Animals are not allowed in any College facility other than college residential building to which the student is assigned.

#### Owner's Responsibilities:

- The Owner must abide by current city, county, and state ordinances, laws and/or regulations pertaining to licensing, vaccination, and other requirements for animals. It is the student's responsibility to know and understand these ordinances, laws and regulations. The College has the right to require documentation of compliance with such ordinances, laws, and/or regulations, which may include vaccinations, certificate or a veterinarian's statement regarding the animal's health. The College reserves the right to request documentation showing that the animal has been licensed.
- The Owner is required to clean up after and properly dispose of the animal's feces in a safe and sanitary manner and, when provided, must use animal relief areas designated by NCTA. If the animal is a dog, the dog must be housebroken and kennel trained.
- In the case of an emergency, the College is not responsible for evacuating the animal.
- NCTA will not ask for or require a student with a disability to pay a surcharge or to comply with other requirements generally not applicable to people without animals.
- A student with a disability may be charged for any damage caused by his or her Assistance Animal beyond reasonable wear and tear. The room must be kept clean with no odors from the animal. The Owner's living accommodations may also be inspected for fleas, ticks or other pests if necessary. If fleas, ticks or other pests are detected through inspection, the residence will be treated using approved fumigation methods by a college-approved pest control service. The Owner will be billed for the expense of any pest treatment above and beyond standard pest management in the residence halls. The College shall have the right to bill the student's account for unmet obligations under this provision.
- Assistance animals may not be left overnight in College Housing to be cared for by another student. If the Owner is to be gone overnight or for a prolonged period, the animal must accompany the Owner.
- The Owner agrees to abide by all equally applicable residential policies that are unrelated to the student's disability such as assuring that the animal does not unduly interfere with the routine activities of the residence or cause difficulties for students who reside there. Any violations of residential policies and subsequent discipline shall involve consultation with the Disability

Services Coordinator before action is taken.

- The animal is allowed in college housing only as long as it is necessary because of the Owner's disability. The owner must notify the Disability Services Office in writing if the Assistance Animal is no longer needed or is no longer in residence. To replace an Assistance Animal, the animal must be necessary because of the Owner's disability and the Owner must file a new request of housing accommodation as required under this Policy.
- Should the Assistance Animal be removed from the premises for any reason, the Owner is expected to fulfill his/her housing obligations for the remainder of the housing contract.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address

**This contact should be someone who could take your animal immediately in case there were an emergency:**

**Contact Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Cell phone and Home phone**

## **SERVICE ANIMAL**

The Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504). Among other things, the ADA and Section 504 require the College to make reasonable modifications to its policies, practices, or procedures to permit the use of a Service Animal by a student, faculty, staff or visitor with a disability.

### **Definition of Service Animal**

The ADA defines a Service Animal as “any dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability.” Importantly, other species of animals, whether wild or domestic, trained or untrained, are not Service Animals for the purposes of the ADA. However, under certain conditions, NCTA will make reasonable modifications for a miniature horse that has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of the individual with a disability.

When assessing whether a dog is a Service Animal individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, the dog must be trained to do work or perform tasks that are directly related to the individual’s disability. Examples of work or tasks include, but are not limited to, the following:

- assisting individuals who are blind or have low vision with navigation and other tasks;
- alerting individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing to the presence of people or sounds;
- providing non-violent protection or rescue work;
- pulling a wheelchair;
- assisting an individual during a seizure;
- alerting individuals to the presence of allergens;
- retrieving items such as medicine or the telephone;
- providing physical support and assistance with balance and stability to individuals with mobility disabilities; and
- Assisting persons with psychiatric and neurologic disabilities by preventing or interrupting impulsive or destructive behaviors. The crime deterrent effects of a dog’s presence and the provision of emotional support, well-being, comfort, or companionship do not constitute work or tasks for purposes of determining if a dog is a Service Animal under this policy.

### **Verification of Service Animal**

The College will not ask about the nature or extent of an individual’s disability. However, when it is not readily apparent that the dog identified by the individual with a disability is trained to do work or perform tasks for him or her, the Services for Students with Disabilities Office or the Equity, Access and Diversity Office may ask the individual with the disability if the dog is required because of a disability and what work or task the dog has been trained to perform. However, the College will not require documentation, such as proof that the dog has been certified, trained, or licensed as a Service Animal.

**Care and supervision of Service Animal**

The individual with the disability using a Service Animal is responsible for the care or supervision of a Service Animal. The Service Animal must be under the control of the individual at all times and must have a harness, leash, or other tether. If the use of a harness, leash, or other tether would interfere with the performance of the work or tasks performed by the Service Animal or is impractical because of an individual's disability, a harness, leash, or other tether may not be required. However, in that case, the individual must be able to control the Service Animal by other effective means such as voice controls or signals.

A Service Animal is generally permitted to accompany the individual with a disability to College facilities where members of the public, students, staff, and faculty are allowed to go. However, the College may ask the individual with a disability to remove a Service Animal from any of its facilities if: (1) the Service Animal is out of control and the individual with a disability does not take effective action to control it; or (2) the Service Animal is not housebroken. The College may also ask the individual with a disability to remove a Service Animal from any of its facilities if the use or presence of the Service Animal poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others or if the animal's behavior, such as barking, is unreasonably disruptive to the other participants within the facility.

The College may impose legitimate safety requirements on the use or presence of a Service Animal that are necessary for safe operation of its facilities. There are some facilities that are not safe for use or presence of Service Animals and from which the College may exclude Service Animals on a case-by-case basis based on actual risks.

The individual with a disability must abide by current city, county, and state ordinances/laws/regulations pertaining to licensing, vaccination, and other requirements for animals (It is the individual's responsibility to know and understand these ordinances, laws and regulations). The individual with a disability is responsible to clean up after and properly dispose of the animal's feces in a safe and sanitary manner.

The College will not ask for or require an individual with a disability to pay a surcharge or to comply with other requirements generally not applicable to people without pets.

However, an individual with a disability may be charged any damage caused by his or her Service Animal.

**Requesting a Reasonable Modification**

Students wishing to utilize a Service Animal on campus should contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office at 308.367.5217. Faculty, staff and visitors wishing to utilize a Service Animal on the campus should contact the Equity, Access and Diversity Office at 308.367.5217 for approval.

If you feel you were denied this accommodation, a grievance can be filed through the regular College grievance procedures on file with the Equity, Access and Diversity Office (308.367.5259) or the Services for Students with Disabilities Office (308.367.5217). *Policy Revised 8/2012 CAH*