

CAMPUS SAFETY & SECURITY

Title:	Service Dogs
Category:	Guidelines
Guideline No.:	CC&S-8-2013
Applicability:	All Employees, Students, Volunteers and Visitors
Created Date:	May 2013
Revised Date:	July 2025

INTENTION

To provide guidance, information and practices pertaining to the treatment of service dogs who serve to accommodate individuals with disabilities around the College.

SCOPE/DEFINITION

- Service dogs (also known as guide dogs, hearing dogs or signal dogs) are highly trained animals that assist with the mobility, safety and overall independence of individuals with disabilities.
- An individual with a disability accompanied by a service dog has the same rights, privileges and obligations as all other individuals.
- Service dogs are permitted in all public spaces throughout the College so long as they are properly leashed or harnessed.
- Harnessed service dogs are considered as working and should not be distracted.

GUIDELINES

Students and employees who require an accommodation for a service dog must provide relevant documentation to the College. Students requesting accommodation should contact Accessibility Services for required information and documentation; employees requesting accommodation should contact Human Resources for required information and documentation. Medical information will remain confidential, but the College may provide notification to those whose environments may be impacted in order to ensure that the safety needs and any concerns regarding sensitivity to animals are addressed (e.g. advising co-workers, faculty or students).

Employees, students, volunteers and visitors of the College should be able to recognize service dogs on campus and act appropriately when they are encountered. Whether harnessed or unharnessed, service dogs should not be approached, spoken to or fed unless the owner has authorized an individual to do so. Individuals should ensure that the pathways for service dogs and their owners are unobstructed. Should a service dog get distracted or start misbehaving, the responsibility of correction should be left to the owner.

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ROLES & PRACTICES

Human Resources

- Facilitate accommodations for employees who require service dogs
- Provide any additional information for employee inquiries relating to this guideline

Accessibility Services

- Facilitate accommodations for students who require service dogs
- Provide any additional information for student inquiries relating to this guideline

Campus Safety & Security

- Ensure that all safety and security measures are taken to accommodate for service dogs at the College
- Work with executive and management to implement and educate on rules and procedures for handling service dogs within specific work areas

SOURCES

BC Laws – Guide Dog and Service Dog Act

<https://www.bclaws.gov.bc.ca/civix/document/id/complete/statreg/15017>

Canadian National Institute for the Blind

[Guide Dog Handler Advocacy Resources](#)

[Guide Dog Etiquette](#)

BC Guide Dog Services

<https://bcandalbertaguidedogs.com/>

REVIEWED

Human Resources

Accessibility Services

Campus Safety & Security

Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committee

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