Saint Joseph’s University

CAMPUS ANIMAL POLICY

PURPOSE: With over one-hundred acres in west Philadelphia and Montgomery County, the Saint Joseph’s University campus is a convenient place for members of the Saint Joseph’s community to spend time with pets. Saint Joseph’s recognizes that pets play a significant role in the lives of owners and others. In an effort to protect the safety and well-being of members of the Saint Joseph’s community, as well as the safety and well-being of their pets, the University has enacted this policy.

DOGS ON CAMPUS

By bringing a dog on campus the dog owner thereby agrees to comply with this policy. Dogs are allowed on the Saint Joseph’s campus at all times, subject to the following restrictions:

(a) Dogs must be kept on a leash. Dogs may not be tethered and left alone.
(b) Dog waste must be cleaned up and properly disposed of.
(c) The dog must be properly vaccinated and be otherwise healthy.
(d) The dog must be obedient, well trained, and socialized to be around people and other dogs.
(e) If at any time University personnel, whether for emergency purposes or otherwise, request that a dog owner remove the dog from a certain area, or the campus, the dog owner is obligated to comply with the request.
(f) Dogs are not permitted in University buildings at any time unless approval has been obtained from the area Vice President, Provost, or their designee. If a dog is permitted in the workplace through the appropriate approvals, a sign must be posted in the work-area alerting visitors that a dog is present.
(g) Dogs are not permitted in or near food service areas.
(h) Dogs in residence halls are governed by the Office of Student Life Hawk Student Handbook, as are other animals. Exceptions to the policy, such as those for Service Animals as described below, are to be reviewed by the Vice President for Student Life in consultation with the General Counsel and other University staff members as appropriate.
(i) Dog owners must comply with area-specific rules regarding dogs, posted elsewhere, such as restrictions on dogs at athletic events and other specific outdoor events.
(j) The University reserves the right to restrict dogs in certain areas on an as needed basis without advance notice.

OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES OF DOG OWNERS

Dog owners bring their dogs onto the Saint Joseph’s campus at their own risk. The University makes no guarantee that the campus is safe for dogs. The University will not be held responsible for the acts of individual dogs while on the University campus. DOG OWNERS ARE SOLELY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ACTIONS AND BEHAVIOR OF THEIR DOG(S).
**Service Animals**

Saint Joseph’s is mindful of the diverse needs of its student body, employees and visitors to the campus as they relate to the use of service animals and strives to maintain an inclusive and accommodating community.

Service animals, including dogs, *are* permitted in University buildings when approved by the University. Service Animals are defined for the purposes of this policy as (i) any dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability as defined by the federal Americans with Disabilities Act, or (ii) any other aid animal that has been certified by a recognized authority to assist such a person. Determinations on whether or not an animal is a Service Animal under this policy will be made by the Vice President for Student Life in consultation with the Director of Services for Students with Learning/Physical Disabilities.

Other animals, whether wild or domestic, trained or untrained, are not service animals for the purposes of this definition. The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the handler’s disability. Examples of work or tasks include, but are not limited to, 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 helping persons with psychiatric and neurological disabilities by preventing or interrupting impulsive or destructive behaviors. The crime deterrent effects of an animal’s presence and the provision of emotional support, well-being, comfort, or companionship do not constitute work or tasks for the purposes of this definition.

**Demonstration Animals**

Demonstration Animals or animals used by faculty members for teaching purposes are permitted on campus upon prior written approval from the Provost, department chair, or appropriate Dean of the School. Procedures governing the laboratory and research use of animals are covered separately in the *University Policy on Humane Care and Use of Animals in Research*. This policy can be reviewed by accessing the following link:

http://www.sju.edu/academics/resources/research/iauac/