

Carmel Clay Schools

Service Animals

A “disability dog” is a dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability. A “disability dog” only includes dogs and excludes any other species of animal.

A “companion animal” is an animal that provides solely emotional support, well-being, comfort, or companionship and does not meet the definition of a disability dog or a service animal.

An “impaired person” is a person who is impaired by blindness (or any other visual impairment), deafness (or any other aural impairment), a physical disability or a medical condition.

A “service animal” is an animal especially trained as a hearing, guide, assistance, seizure alert, mobility, psychiatric service or autism service animal. It also means an animal that an impaired person relies on for navigation, assistance in performing daily activities, or alert signals regarding the onset of the person’s medical condition.

A “tether” is a harness, leash, or other tether.

Companion animals are not permitted in Carmel Clay School facilities.

As specifically required by the regulations of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act, Carmel Clay Schools permits the use of a disability dog by an individual with a disability. Individuals with disabilities are permitted to be accompanied by their disability dogs in all areas of Carmel Clay School facilities where the individual is otherwise permitted to be. The work or tasks performed by the disability dog must be directly related to the individual’s disability. Prior to working with or performing tasks directly related to the individual’s disability (unless readily apparent), the disabled individual or his/her parents must explain to a certified staff member working at the property that the disability dog is required because of a disability and what work or task the disability dog has been trained to perform. Carmel Clay Schools requests that the disabled individual or his/her parents provide documentation supporting that the disability dog is required because of a disability and supporting that the dog has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of the disabled individual.

Disability dogs are excluded from Carmel Clay School facilities if the disability dog is not housebroken or it is out of control and the handler does not take effective action to control it. A disability dog must be under the control of its handler. The disability dog must have a tether, unless either the handler is unable because of a disability to use a tether, or the use of a tether would interfere with the disability dog’s safe, effective performance of work or tasks, in which case the disability dog must be otherwise under the handler’s control.

All persons are prohibited by Indiana Code 16-32-3 from refusing access or charging an access fee to a person who is totally or partially blind, has a hearing impairment, has a physical or

mental disability, or who is engaging in the training process of a service animal because the person is accompanied by a service animal especially trained for its purpose.

All persons are prohibited by Indiana Code 35-46-3-11.5 from knowingly or intentionally interfering with the actions of a service animal or striking, tormenting, injuring or otherwise mistreating a service animal while the service animal is engaged in assisting an impaired person in navigation, assistance in performing daily activities, or alert signals regarding the onset of the person's medical condition.

Carmel Clay Schools are not responsible for the care or supervision of a disability dog.

A person accompanied by a service animal is liable for any damage done by the service animal.

An individual with a disability may be charged for damage caused by his/her disability dog.

As specifically required by the regulations of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act, Carmel Clay Schools will make a case by case assessment of requests for using a miniature horse with an individual with a disability. Such requests can be made to a district administrator at the Educational Services Center.