

5 Service Animals

7 For the purposes of this policy, state law defines a service animal as a dog or any other animal that
8 is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability.
9 Federal law definition of a disability includes a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other
10 mental disability.

12 The District shall permit the use of a miniature horse by an individual with a disability, according
13 to the assessments factors as outlined in Policy 8425R, if the miniature horse has been individually
14 trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of the individual with a disability.

16 Great Falls Public Schools will permit the use of service animals by an individual with a disability
17 according to state and federal regulations. The School District will honor requests for service
18 animals in accordance with the applicable Section 504 or Special Education policy adopted by the
19 Board of Trustees. The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the
20 handler's disability.

22 Examples of work or tasks performed by the service animal to accommodate an identified
23 disability include, but are not limited to, assisting individuals who are blind or have low vision
24 with navigation and other tasks, alerting individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing to the presence
25 of people or sounds, providing nonviolent protection or rescue work, pulling a wheelchair,
26 assisting an individual during a seizure, alerting individuals to the presence of allergens, retrieving
27 items such as medicine or the telephone, providing physical support and assistance with balance
28 and stability to individuals with mobility disabilities, and helping persons with psychiatric and
29 neurological disabilities by preventing or interrupting impulsive or destructive behaviors.

31 The crime deterrent effects of an animal's presence and the provision of emotional support, well-
32 being, comfort, or companionship do not constitute work or tasks for the purposes of this
33 definition.

35 **The District may ask an individual with a disability to remove a service animal from the**
36 **premises if:**

- 38 • The animal is out of control and the animal's handler does not take effective action to
39 control it; or
- 40 • The animal is not housebroken

The District is not responsible for the care or supervision of the service animal.

1 Individuals with disabilities shall be permitted to be accompanied by their service animals in all
2 areas of the District's facilities where members of the public, participants in services, programs or
3 activities, or invitees, as relevant, are allowed to go.

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5 Cross Reference:

6 Policy 2161	Special Education
7 Policy 2162	Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
8 Policy 2520	Animals/Pets in School
9 Policy 3418	Life Threatening Allergies-Medical Conditions
10 Policy 8302R	Guidelines for Indoor Air Quality
11 Policy 8425P-R	Procedure for allowance of service animals

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13 Legal Reference:

14 28 CFR 35.136	Service Animals
15 28 CFR 35.104	Definitions
16 49-4-203(2), MCA	Definitions

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18 Policy History:

19 Adopted on:	August 12, 2013
20 Revised on:	September 23, 2019

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