

Considerations for Service Animals in Lab Spaces

All students who have been granted the accommodation of a service animal will have undergone the procedures as outlined in the [Animals on Campus policy](#) and as such are held to the responsibilities of the handler as outlined in this policy. Failure for the handler to uphold their responsibilities or any misbehavior on the part of the animal as stated under section VI of the Service Animal Procedures are grounds for removal from the lab. Adherence to the policy document as well as the risk mitigation measures below should mitigate the potential risk of having a service or support animal present in a lab.

An email may be sent to the lab outlining to students that a service or support animal will be present in the lab and what is appropriate behavior regarding the animal. Lab instructors should help to ensure that students are not engaging with the service or support animal at any time.

Safety and Risk Management

It is the responsibility of the student to consider the possible dangers when requesting to have their service or support animal in a lab. The student must take into account factors such as but not limited to the type and size of the animal, the physical space of the lab, possible chemical and environmental exposures, and risk mitigation measures available.

Service or support animals may be denied access to laboratory spaces where the materials or specimens used in the lab would pose a high hazardous risk of exposure to the animal or other identified safety risks due to the individualized nature of the lab. These may include labs where the chemicals used may be flammable, volatile, hazardous to health, toxic and/or corrosive. Access may also be denied in laboratory spaces where live animals are present.

Safety Equipment/Protective Clothing

Where applicable, service and support animals must wear the same level of protective equipment as expected of the students in the lab. This can include safety goggles, boots, lab coat, and being placed on a mat (preferably a chemical-resistant mat). Service and support animals will be denied access to the lab if they do not have all required protective equipment on.

Location of Service Animal

Service and support animals should be placed underneath a wheelchair-accessible desk or other station that is out of the way from:

- High traffic areas
- Dispensing areas
- Exits/Emergency exits
- Hazardous material storage
- Equipment storage

Service In addition, services animals:

- Should not be placed where chemicals or other lab materials are directly above them
- Should be placed within direct line of sight of the handler's main workstation, wherever possible.

In the event the canine is injured, contact the UACC emergency vet line (306) 966-7700 to reach the member of the team that is on-call. One of the team would come and assess the animal and may provide transport to the VMC in a personal vehicle, if needed and approved by the student. The fee for treatment and transport is the responsibility of the student.

Access and Equity Services

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Service or support animal should be placed between the handler and the wall or the edge of a desk instead of between two students.

Areas of safety and areas of hazard for the service or support animal are to be identified in advance and the student and the service and support animal are to travel around safe areas only.

Emergency Procedures

Emergency procedures are to be established for emergency evacuations and chemical spills.

In the event of an emergency evacuation, the student should make every attempt to evacuate with the service or support animal. In the event an emergency evacuation occurs, and the student becomes unresponsive or otherwise unable to evacuate with their service or support animal, Protective Services should be notified.

In the event of a chemical spill, procedures for contact with humans should be followed for the service or support animal, where applicable. Wash station areas that can be accessed by the animal are to be identified in advance and may be outside of the lab space.

In the event the canine is injured, contact the UACC emergency vet line (306) 966-7700 to reach the member of the team that is on-call. One of the team would come and assess the animal and may provide transport to the VMC in a personal vehicle, if needed and approved by the student. The fee for treatment and transport is the responsibility of the student.

Service Animal Tasking

Tasks performed by the service animal cannot interfere with the safe operations of the lab. Alternative tasks should be trained so that the canine is not vocalizing (which may startle other students) or physically interacting with the handler in a way that may disturb other students or have the potential to have the handler spill/break materials.



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Accommodation of Service or Support Animal in Lab Spaces Checklist

Safety Equipment What is required of the animal?	<input type="checkbox"/> Goggles	<input type="checkbox"/> Lab coat/protective suit	<input type="checkbox"/> Boots	<input type="checkbox"/> Mat
Location	Student and service or support animal will be located:	Service and support animal is not to access the following spaces within the lab:		
Evacuation and Emergency Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Student has service or support animal ID badge on display on the canine at all times in a location that is easily visibly accessible <input type="checkbox"/> Student is aware of the location of the exits and the safe paths to access them <input type="checkbox"/> Student is aware of the emergency wash stations that can be accessed by the Animal.			
Tasking	Are the tasks performed by the service animal a safety concern?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
	If yes, explain:			
General	<input type="checkbox"/> Student has reviewed their responsibilities as set out in the Animals on Campus service animal procedure document.			

By signing below, I am aware of the risks associated with the health and safety of my service or support animal while within the laboratory. I accept ownership of such risk and release the University of all responsibility and costs associated with damages or harm caused to the animal as a result of regular activities performed within this laboratory setting.

Student Full Name	NSID	USask Student Number
Student Signature	Date (dd/mm/yyyy)	

Departmental Designate Name	
Departmental Designate Signature	Date (dd/mm/yyyy)

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