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## **Emotional Support Animal Student Agreement Contract**

*Your request for an Emotional Support Animal (ESA) in a Roger William's University Residence Hall has been approved, subject to the following terms and conditions:*

**General Standards** – Emotional Support Animals (ESA) are only permitted in a student's assigned residence hall room. The student must not clean the animal or animal supplies (toys, crate, litterbox, bedding, etc.) in University shared spaces/washing machines. Emotional Support Animals are not allowed in common areas and should not be brought into other public University buildings such as classrooms, library, Dining Commons, shuttle, etc.

**An Emotional Support Animal may be permitted in University housing if it:**

- Is approved by Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and Department of Residence Life & Housing (DRLH) Offices
- Poses no direct threat to the health (including allergic reaction of roommate/s) or safety of others
- Does not cause substantial physical damage to the property of the University and other residents
- Does not pose an undue financial and administrative burden to the University
- Does not fundamentally alter the nature of the University's housing operations

### **Specific Standards**

- All required animal immunizations must be up to date and a copy of the immunizations must be on file with Student Accessibility Services.
- For dogs and cats, your ESA must be spayed or neutered, as applicable. A copy of the veterinarian's report must be on file with Student Accessibility Services.
- A Certificate of Health signed by a veterinarian certifying your ESA is healthy and free from any signs of infections or contagious diseases, parasites, etc. must be on file with Student Accessibility Services.
- Collars/tags must be worn at all times (specifically in the case of cats and dogs).
- Your ESA may only be present in your assigned room.
- At all times, you are fully responsible for the animal's behavior. The ESA must be controlled by tether or cage at all times. At no time is the ESA to be allowed to roam free in the residential/academic environment.
- Your ESA may not leave your designated room except for purposes of elimination, leashed exercise or transportation off-campus. It must be in an appropriate carrier or leashed when doing so.
- Animals require daily food and attention, as well as a daily assessment of their general health, behavior, and overall welfare, which is your sole responsibility.
- Your ESA must be caged/crated while you are away from your room at any given time.
- Student Accessibility Services/Residential Life and Housing have the right to inspect the sustainability of such cage/crate.



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- Your ESA cannot be left unattended overnight at any time. If you must be away, you must either take your ESA with you, make arrangements for your ESA to be cared for at an off-campus facility, or have your Emergency Caretaker care for the animal.
  - No other student, or babysitter, is allowed to “watch” your animal while you away from your residence hall. The animal must be caged/crated.
  - The University allows only one ESA per room. The University reserves the right to make a determination for more than one ESA on a case-by-case basis given all factors involved.
  - In consideration of the health of your ESA and occupants of the Residence Hall, ESA waste and /or litter box contents (if applicable) must be disposed of properly and regularly. Animal feces, defined as litter box contents and any solid animal waste, must be disposed of properly. Animal feces may not be disposed of in any trash receptacle or through the sewer system inside any building at the University. Waste **MUST** be taken to any apartment or residence hall dumpster for disposal.
  - Animal accidents within the Residence Hall must be promptly cleaned up using appropriate cleaning products.
  - Regular and routine cleaning of floors, cages, and litter boxes must occur. The odor of an animal emanating from the residence hall room or apartment is not allowed.
  - Any flea infestation must be attended to promptly by a professional extermination company at your expense. You are expected to promptly notify Facilities and arrange for extermination when a flea problem is noted. You may take some precautionary measures with your ESA such as: flea medications prescribed by veterinarians, flea and tick collars, taking your animal to the veterinarian for flea and tick baths; however, University staff may not use chemical agents and insecticides to exterminate fleas and ticks. Because not all of the precautions listed here can prevent flea and tick infestations, you are responsible for extermination costs after vacating the apartment or residence hall room, should an infestation arise.
  - You are responsible for ensuring that your ESA does not create persistent odor, noise, or disturbance.
  - You are responsible for the actions of your ESA, including any noise, personal injury, or property damage it causes. You must take all reasonable precautions to protect other residents, University staff, and the property of the University. It is highly recommended that you carry renter’s insurance (or confirm coverage through your parents’ or guardian’s homeowner’s insurance) should the animal cause property damage or personal injury.
  - You must immediately notify Student Accessibility Services and the Department of Residence Life and Housing if the animal has escaped its confines.
  - When you move out of your room, or no longer have your ESA, your room will be assessed to determine if the animal caused any damage to University property. The University maintains the right to conduct apartment or residence hall room inspections for the purpose of assessing damage cause by the animal or otherwise determine your compliance with these procedures. Damages and extraordinary cleaning caused by the animal are the responsibility of the resident. Replacement or repair of damaged items will be your sole financial responsibility.
  - Violations concerning any of the aforementioned may result in the resident having to find alternative housing off-campus for the animal and, as warranted, may also result in a resident being in breach of their housing contract.



- If it is deemed necessary that the animal be removed, you have 72 hours to remove it yourself or via your Emergency Caretaker.

### Liability

- The University assumes no responsibility of any kind for loss or damage to the student's ESA in University housing caused by fire, water, theft, the actions of other students, guests or other individuals, or any other cause whatsoever. ESA's that dwell in university housing shall be, at all times, housed at the owner's risk. This includes but is not limited to food items that may spoil due to a power outage or other power/electrical/heating/cooling issues during the academic session or break periods. Each student is urged to lock their room/apartment at all times. All students are strongly encouraged to carry adequate personal property/animal insurance.
- Upon the vacating of, or withdrawal from, or removal from the University or University Housing, the student must remove their ESA immediately. If the student fails to remove their ESA 72 hours, the ESA shall be deemed as abandoned and removed by the University in its sole discretion.

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Residence Hall:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Building/Room#:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Animal Type:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ESA Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I acknowledge that I have read and understand the Emotional Support Animal (ESA) guidelines and agree to abide by all of the above-listed terms and conditions.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Resident*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Printed Name*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*RWU Student ID*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Apartment/Room*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of SAS Staff*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*