

Galen College of Nursing is committed to providing equal access for individuals with disabilities. Pursuant to these commitments, service animals are permitted on campus for persons with disabilities in accordance with the requirements of this policy. Prior to arrival on campus, an individual with a service animal is encouraged to contact a Section 504/Title IX Coordinator.

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### [Requirements of Handlers & Service Animals](#)

Service animals are permitted inside Galen College of Nursing pursuant to the requirements below.

- The service animal must be vaccinated and licensed as the local ordinance requires.
- Service animals must be accompanied by the handler.
- The service animal must be restrained on a leash unless these devices interfere with the service animal's work or the individual's disability prevents using these devices. It should be noted, however, that service animals that leave their handlers could indicate that the handler needs help or medical assistance and that the animal should be followed back to the handler.
- The service animal should be responsive to commands and be under the complete control of the handler at all times.
- The handler must ensure that the service animal is behaving and neither interfering with the day-to-day operations of Galen College of Nursing (e.g., not barking regularly) nor posing a threat to others (e.g., not growling or biting). Handlers whose service animal does not behave appropriately are expected to remove the animal from the immediate environment if asked by staff or faculty.
- Staff or faculty will ask the handler to remove the service animal if the animal is not housebroken or if the animal is out of control and the handler does not take action to control the service animal.
- The handler is responsible for the care and feeding of the service animal and immediately cleaning up waste or soliciting proper assistance to clean up the waste of their service animal.

There may be situations where the service animal's presence would fundamentally alter the nature of a particular course. When these situations are identified by the Section 504/Title IX Coordinators, the handler and the College will work together to determine how best to maintain the learning environment while still appropriately accommodating the handler.

Visitors and their service animals are expected to comply with the requirements of handlers and service animals listed below.

### [Permissible Inquiries](#)

Staff and faculty who have questions or concerns regarding the behavior of a service animal or the presence of a service animal on campus should not direct their concerns to the individual and/or handler. Instead, direct all questions or concerns to the Section 504/Title IX Coordinators.

If the animal does not appear to be a service animal, staff or faculty are only limited to asking the following questions. “Is the service animal required because of a disability?” and “What work, or tasks has the animal been trained to perform?”

### *Campus Access for Service Animals*

A service animal is permitted to accompany the handler anywhere the handler goes on campus, with exceptions in areas specifically prohibited due to health, environmental, or safety hazards – such as a clinical setting.

### *Management of Service Animals off the College Campuses*

Management of a service animal beyond Galen College of Nursing’s campuses is beyond the scope of this policy. Galen defers to the policies of individual clinical training sites regarding using service animals at those facilities. Handlers should contact the Section 504/Title IX Coordinators if they have any questions or need assistance.

### *Emotional Support Animals & Therapy Animals*

Emotional support, therapy, comfort, and companion animals are not service animals and are not allowed except under specific college-approved circumstances.