
Administrative Rules

Rule 1.4.3 – Service Animals

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Overview and General Rules

I. PURPOSE

To protect District customers and property from injury from animals within District facilities and to ensure District compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and ORS regarding service or assistance animals for individuals experiencing disabilities.

II. OBJECTIVE

To prohibit all animals from entering the public area of District facilities, with exception of service animals, service animal trainees, and animals featured in programs sponsored by the Library District.

III. RULES AND REGULATIONS

- A. The Library District complies with ADA requirements, regarding service animals.
- B. Service animals are allowed in the libraries *except* when one of the following occur:
 - I. The service animal is not a dog. Only dogs are recognized as service or assistance animals in Oregon.
 - II. The service or assistance animal is not under control.
 - III. The service or assistance animal is not house broken.
- C. The only persons permitted to bring service animals or service animal trainees into the public areas of library facilities are persons who require the assistance of such an animal and service animal trainers.
- D. Service or assistance animals are defined as dogs that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities. The work or task a dog has been trained to provide must be directly related to the person's disability. Animals whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support do not qualify as service animals under ADA.

IV. PROCEDURES

- A. If there is a question regarding a person's need for service animals, District personnel, in their discretion, will ask whether a service animal is required because of a disability, and will inquire as to what task the service animal is trained to perform.

For example, "I'm sorry, but animals are not allowed in the library unless you require the services of a service animal. Is this service animal required because of a disability? What work or task has this animal been trained to perform for you?" Do not require verification if the need for a service animal is obvious, for instance, a dog is accompanying a person with a sight disability.

- B. Require a customer to remove any animal that is not under the control of the customer, is creating a disturbance, or is threatening other customers. Even if a service animal is excluded, the customer using that service animal retains the option of continuing to use the library facilities without the service animal on the premises.

IV. LIABILITY

A person utilizing a service animal or a service animal trainer is liable for all injury and damage caused by the service animal while within library facilities.