



**The University of Montana-Helena**  
COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

**Policy Number:** 800.5

**Policy Title:** Animals on Campus

**Subject:** Section 800. Miscellaneous

**Date Adopted:**

**Date(s) Revised:**

**Approved by:**

---

Daniel J. Bingham  
Dean/CEO  
The University of Montana – Helena  
College of Technology

---

**POLICY STATEMENT:**

The University of Montana – Helena College of Technology restricts the access of animals on the campuses of the college to those animals exempted in this policy in order to provide a safe and substantive learning environment and workplace.

All UM-Helena college policies shall adhere to and be consistent with relevant federal and state laws, rules, and regulations; with Board of Regents' policies and procedures; and with The University of Montana's policies and procedures.

---

## **PROCEDURES:**

### **Definitions:**

Animal – for the purpose of this policy, an animal is defined as an animal (either mammal, reptile, avian, or aquatic) that is either domestic, wild, or a combination thereof, as well as working or sport animals *which are kept for economic or productive reasons*. *In all cases the animal is under the control or care of an owner/manager/guardian.*

ADA – The Americans with Disabilities Act, passed in 1990 and amended in 2009 is a wide-ranging civil rights law that prohibits, under certain circumstances, discrimination based on disability.

Disability – defined by the ADA as "a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity."

Handler/Partner – the term used to refer to an individual with a disability who has a service animal as an accommodation.

### **A. Exempted Animals**

The following animals are permitted on UM-Helena property:

1. Service animals while performing their duties;

Service animals, as defined by the ADA, must be individually trained to perform a specific function for a person with a disability. If an animal meets this definition, it is considered a service animal regardless of whether it has been licensed or certified by a state or local government or a training program. It is also the policy of UM-Helena to permit members of the public who are service dog trainers, while engaged in the actual training process and activities of service dogs, the same rights, privileges, and responsibilities as other members of the public, as provided by MCA 49-4-214. The service animal must be clearly identified as a working service animal while it is on the College campus. Further information about service animals can be obtained from the Office of Disability Services, the ADA Officer in the Human Resources office, or on the UM-Helena website at <http://umhelena.edu/current/disability/policies.aspx>.

2. On-duty police dogs;

3. Animals used for instructional or school-related purposes;

Animals which will be brought on campus for these reasons must receive prior approval for the activity by the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs or the Director of Continuing Education, as appropriate, followed by notification of the College's Facility Manager before the animal is brought on campus.

## **B. Handler/Partner Responsibilities**

Handlers/partners who are on campus on a regular basis are required to adhere to the following:

1. All service animals need to be immunized against rabies according to state law.
2. Services animals must wear a rabies vaccination tag or the handler/partner must present the immunization certificate to the Director of Disability Services (for students) or the Director of Human Resources (for faculty and staff).
3. Services animals need to be maintained on a leash, harness or other type of restraint in university buildings and public areas. However, exceptions are granted in an emergency situation, when the service animal needs to perform a task requiring it to travel beyond the length of the restraint or when the handler/partner is unable to restrain a service animal on a leash due to a disability.
4. The handler/partner must be in full control of the service animal at all times. The care and supervision of the service animal is solely the responsibility of the handler/partner, and as such, the handler/partner is liable for any accident or damage caused by the service animal on campus.
5. The handler/partner is responsible for independently removing or arranging for the removal of the service animal's waste, as necessary.
6. Handlers/partners need to make sure that their service animal is kept as clean as possible so as not to interfere with the educational environment. Regular bathing and grooming may be necessary for flea and tick control.

## **C. Removal of Animals**

Service animals whose behavior poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others or that is disruptive to the campus community may be removed or excluded regardless of training or certification.

Due to the risk of injury from animals to persons at the College, owners of non-exempt animals found on campus will be asked to remove them. If an unrestrained animal is sighted on campus, a member of the maintenance staff will call the local authorities to capture and impound the animal. When appropriate, disciplinary measures may be invoked.