

ANIMALS ON UNIVERSITY PREMISES POLICY

Effective Date: December 10, 2019

Originating Office: Office of the
Vice-President, Services

Supersedes /Amends: December 14, 1998

Policy Number: VPS-22

SCOPE

This Policy applies to all University Employees, students and visitors.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Policy is to outline the conditions under which animals are permitted on University premises.

DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Policy, the following definitions shall apply:

“Employee” means any full-time, part-time or temporary employee of the University, including staff, faculty, postdoctoral fellows, researchers, members of the administration and stagiaires; any individual engaged by the University on a consulting basis or in virtue of any other contractual agreement; and appointees (including volunteers) of the University.

“Pet” means a domestic or tamed animal kept mainly for companionship. Examples of Pets in accordance with this Policy include:

- animals who accompany their owners and are sometimes referred to as *emotional support animals*; and
- dogs who are being trained and/or socialized with the goal of becoming a Service Dog, as defined below.

“Research Animal” means any animal housed in laboratory areas for research purposes.

“Service Dog” means a trained and certified dog that provides assistance to people with visual or hearing impairments; motor or neurological impairments; or pervasive development disorders, including autism spectrum disorder and Asperger syndrome. Only dogs certified by organizations recognized by the *Commission des droits de la personne et des droits de la jeunesse*,

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such as *Fondation Mira* and Lions Foundation shall be considered Service Dogs. For greater clarity, guide dogs shall be considered Service Dogs.

“University Premises” means any and all buildings owned or leased by Concordia University and all of the outdoor spaces or areas owned or leased by Concordia including, but not limited to, sports fields, laneways and parking lots. University Premises can be referred to as outdoor or indoor University Premises.

POLICY

1. The presence of any animal on University Premises shall be controlled in order to maintain sanitation, respect health and safety regulations and reduce the risk of personal injury.
2. With the exception of Research Animals and Service Dogs, no other animals, including Pets, shall be permitted entry into any indoor University Premises.
3. Notwithstanding the restrictions set out in this Policy, the University may, from time to time and at its own discretion, hold sessions or programs offering encounters with Pets.

Research Animals

4. Research Animals shall be permitted on the University Premises under the rules and protocols determined by the University Animal Care Facility and the pertinent laws and regulations governing animal research.

Service Dogs

5. The University recognizes and allows on all University premises, including the shuttle bus, Service Dogs as a means to palliate a disability or a disorder, a right protected by the [Quebec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms, CQLR, chapter C-12](#).
6. A University Employee, student or visitor who requires the assistance of a Service Dog shall contact [Environmental Health and Safety](#) to register their Service Dog.

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Pets

7. Pets may be present only on outdoor University Premises. They shall be properly licensed and must be restrained at all times by means of a leash or other control, in accordance with municipal laws and regulations.

Policy Responsibility and Review

8. The overall responsibility for the implementation and recommended amendments to this Policy shall rest with the Vice-President, Services.