IU Kokomo Accessibility Center
Service Animal Information

IU Kokomo does not have a formal policy regarding service animals. Service animals, as defined below, are permitted on campus and in all areas of campus facilities where the public is normally allowed to go. However, the campus expects that the animal will be under control and on a leash at all times\(^1\). Furthermore, it is expected that the owner will be responsible for cleaning up after the animal, as well as for feeding and providing water for the animal. Such animals shall not be left in closed vehicles unattended on campus. If any student has medical concerns relating to the presence of a service animal in the classroom, he/she should contact the Accessibility Center immediately so that the concerns can be appropriately addressed.

**Service Animal Proper Etiquette by Students, Staff, Faculty, & Administration**

Individuals should not:

- Pet a service animal while it is working. Service animals are trained to be protective of their partner, and petting distracts them from their responsibilities.
- Feed a working service animal.
- Deliberately startle, tease, or taunt a service animal.
- Separate or attempt to separate an individual from his/her service animal.
- Hesitate to ask a student if he/she would like assistance if the student and/or service animal seem confused about a direction to turn, an accessible entrance, the location of an elevator, etc.

**ADA Definition of a Service Animal**

Service animals are defined as dogs that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities.

Examples of such work or tasks include guiding people who are blind, alerting people who are deaf, pulling a wheelchair, alerting and protecting a person who is having a seizure, reminding a person with mental illness to take prescribed medications, calming a person with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) during an anxiety attack, or performing other duties. Service animals are working animals, not pets. The work or task a dog has been trained to provide must be directly related to the person’s disability. Dogs whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support do not qualify as service animals under the ADA.

\(^{1}\) Under the ADA, service animals must be harnessed, leashed, or tethered, unless these devices interfere with the service animal’s work or the individual’s disability prevents using these devices. In that case, the individual must maintain control of the animal through voice, signal, or other effective controls.