

SERVICE ANIMALS¹

Individuals with disabilities shall be permitted to bring their services animals on Shaker Regional School District (SRSD) property. This policy does not apply to conditions relative to non-service animals and pets.²

1.1 Service Animal Defined

A service animal is defined as any dog that is individually trained to do or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. Other species of animals, whether wild or domestic, trained or untrained, are not service animals for the purpose of this definition. The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the handler's disability, including, but not limited to guiding individuals with impaired vision, alerting individuals with impaired hearing, providing minimal rescue or protection work, pulling a wheelchair or retrieving dropped items. Emotional support and companion animals are not service animals and are not covered under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)³⁴.

1.2 Inquires

Any individual with a disability who is planning extended use of a service animal on SRSD property shall coordinate with the district's Director of Student Services.

The SRSD shall require the individual with a disability to provide annual submission of proof of current vaccinations and immunizations, and current veterinary health certificate of the service animal.

1.3 Management of Service Animals

The SRSD requires that service animals must be under control of their handlers at all times. Service animals whose behavior poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others may be excluded regardless of training or certification.

The Superintendent shall publish rules and procedures related to this policy.

¹ Americans with Disabilities Act – 42 USC 12101 et seq.

² SRSD Policy IMG

³ 28 CFR 35.104

⁴ NH RSA 167-D:3