Assistance Animal Policies

The term 'Assistance Animal' refers to Service Animals and Emotional Support Animals (ESA). While both are commonly used by individuals with disabilities, they each possess their own set of policies, rules, and restrictions. Failure to abide could result in violation of Oregon Tech Student Code of Conduct.

Service Animals are dogs (OR miniature horses in rare cases) that have been specifically trained to perform a task needed by an individual with disability.

Emotional Support Animals can include a range of animal types and will provide emotional support and/or companionship to an individual with a disability.

Service Animal Policy:

The ADA defines a Service Animal as:

"[...] a dog that has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability. The rule states that other animals, whether wild or domestic, do not qualify as service animals. Dogs that are not trained to perform tasks that mitigate the effects of a disability, including dogs that are used purely for emotional support, are not service animals.

Types of Service Animals:

- Guide dog is a carefully trained dog that serves as a travel tool by persons who are blind or have severe visual impairment.
- Hearing dog is a dog who has been trained to alert a person with significant hearing loss or who is deaf when a sound, e.g., knock on the door, occurs.
- Service dog is a dog that has been trained to assist a person who has a mobility or health impairment. Types of duties the dog may perform include carrying, fetching, opening doors, ringing doorbells, activating elevator buttons, steadying a person while walking, helping a person up after the person falls, etc. Service dogs are sometimes referred to as assistance dogs.
- Sig dog is a dog trained to assist a person with autism. The dog alerts the owner to distracting repetitive movements such as hand flapping.

- Oregon Tech staff is permitted to ask two questions if needed regarding a Service