

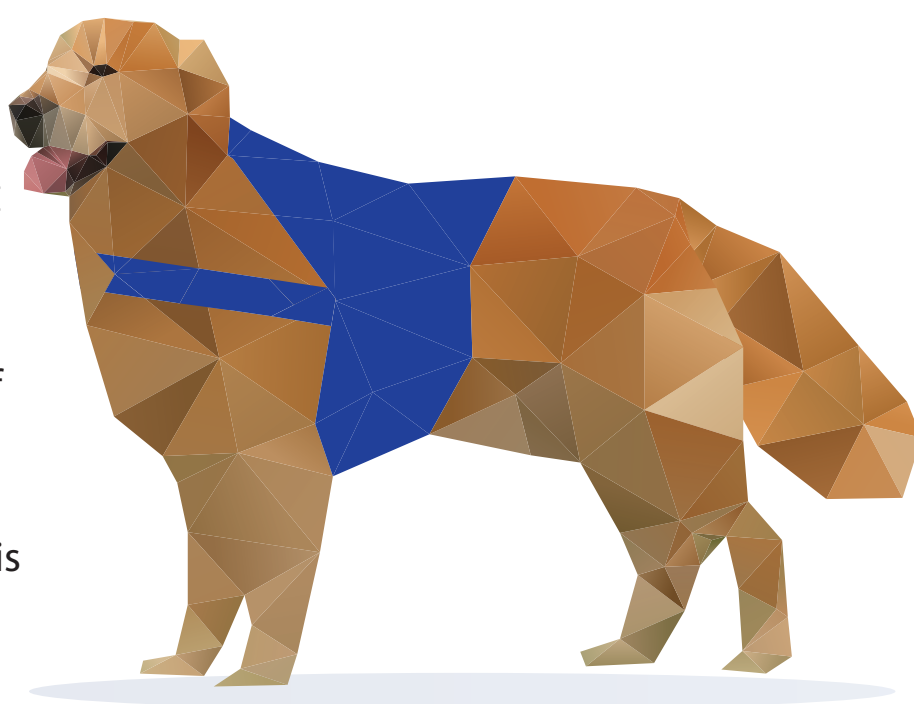
SERVICE ANIMALS at Whatcom Community College

At WCC, the campus is closed to dogs except for working service animals.



Allowed on Campus: Service Animals

- Animal is trained to do specific tasks for benefit of person with disability
- May be wearing a vest, badge or certification but is not required



Not Allowed on Campus: Other Non-Service Animals

- Companion, Emotional Support Animals and pets provide general benefits (may be requested in college housing)
- Therapy Animals are used within therapeutic relationships

How is the animal behaving?

When you see an animal on campus...Try not to make assumptions about whether or not it is a service animal. Remember, disability is hidden more often than not. Let the animal's behavior dictate your course of action.

Working Dog Behavior

- ✓ Is in a harness or a leash (unless obviously performing a task that requires being off leash).
- ✓ Follows verbal or hand commands and remains "at attention."



Untrained Dog Behavior

- ✓ Is engaging in "normal dog" behavior such as sniffing around or greeting people.
- ✓ Is off leash or harness (for example inside a purse or jacket).
- ✓ Is having difficulty following commands of handler.



Out-of-Control Behavior

- ✓ Is barking, growling, jumping, soiling, etc.
- ✓ Is running loose.
- ✓ Is ignoring commands of handler or not being given direction.



No need to ask questions.

Employees may ask two questions:

1. Is this animal needed on the basis of disability?
2. What specific tasks has this dog been trained to perform?

VP of Student Services or Public Safety can exclude animal.

- Exclusion process must be documented at time of event with rationale for decision.
- Individual who experiences disability has right to appeal.
- Excluding review process must be individualized and should take into account relevant contextual aspects.

What you need to know:

Students and staff both have rights when it comes to service animals.

Staff and Faculty

- WCC staff and faculty have a responsibility to allow service dogs on campus when they are working and under the control of a person who experiences disability.
- You can ask if the animal is providing services to mitigate disability, but cannot ask what type of disability.
- If there are questions or concerns they should be raised with Disability Services (ext. 3080).

Individuals who use service animals

- Individuals who experience disability and use a service animal for increased access can have the animal on campus in all areas they would normally be allowed to go.
- The animal may be restricted from certain areas, but only if there is a good reason.
- The animal must be under the handler's control at all times.
- The animal must be clean and well cared for and the handler is responsible for any damages.

Please direct any questions or concerns to Disability Services, 360.383.3080