

Brookdale Community College College Policy

6.1006 SERVICE ANIMALS AND THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT POLICY

I. Title of Policy

Service Animals and the Americans with Disabilities Act Policy

II. Objective of Policy

This Policy and related Regulation 6.1006R ensure access for individuals who demonstrate a need for a service animal on campus and are in compliance with the American with Disabilities Act.

III. Authority

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), 42 U.S.C. 12101 et. seq., Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; ADA 2010 Revised Requirements, US Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division.

IV. Policy Statement

Brookdale Community College recognizes the importance of service animals to individuals with disabilities. A service animal is defined as “an animal individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including, but not limited to, guiding individuals with impaired vision, alerting individuals who are hearing impaired to intruders or sounds, providing minimal protection or rescue work, pulling a wheelchair or fetching dropped items” (ADA as amended). If an animal meets the definition of a service animal, it is considered a service animal regardless of whether it has been licensed or certified by a state or local government or a training program. Service animals are generally dogs. Individuals with disabilities may bring their service animals to areas of the College where the public is normally permitted.

Animals whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support do not qualify as service animals under ADA. Therefore, emotional support animals and non-service dogs/animals (collectively, a “family pet”) are not allowed on campus subject to limited exceptions such as dog therapy sessions coordinated by Student Life & Activities during student anti-stress week, animals used in educational training/learning programs, a special event approved by the College President (e.g., family pets allowed at outdoor Graduation ceremony), and individuals visiting, walking, jogging, attending outdoor sporting events or otherwise accessing the campus property, not buildings, with their well-behaved, non-vicious leashed family pet. Such individuals shall comply with all College Policies and Regulations, including Regulation 6.1006 and 7.1000 Community Use of College Facilities Policy.

A person who has an animal on campus agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the College against any and all liabilities, judgments, costs and reasonable attorney fees for anything done or omitted by the person and his/her animal while on campus. The individual with an animal on campus is also financially responsible for property damage caused by his or her animal including but not limited to cost of repairs, replacement or cleaning of facilities, fields or furnishings, and any injury caused to other persons by the animal.

V. Responsibility for Implementation

President

Approved: Board of Trustees 10/26/2021