



REQUEST FOR DOCUMENTATION Emotional Support Animal

Student's Name: _____

Animal's Name: _____

Type of animal: _____

Age of animal: _____

The above-named student has indicated that you are the (physician, psychiatrist, and/or mental health worker) who has suggested that having an Emotional Support Animal (ESA) in the residence hall will be helpful in alleviating one or more of the identified symptoms or effects of the student's disability. We will accept documentation from providers in the State of New York or the student's home state. So that we may better evaluate the request for this housing accommodation, please answer the following questions:

A. Information about the Student's Disability

(A person with a disability is defined as someone who has "a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities.")

1. What is the nature of the student's mental health impairment, that is, how is the student substantially limited?

2. Does the student require ongoing treatment?

3. How long have you been working with the student regarding this mental health diagnosis?

B. Information about the Proposed ESA

4. Is this an animal that you specifically prescribed as part of treatment for the student, or is it a pet that you believe will have a beneficial effect for the student while in residence on campus?

5. What symptoms will be reduced by having the ESA?

6. Is there evidence that an ESA has helped this student currently or in the past?

C. Importance of ESA to Student's Well-Being

7. In your opinion, how important is it for the student's well-being that the ESA be in residence on campus? What consequences, in terms of disability symptomology, may result if the accommodation is not approved?

8. Have you discussed the responsibilities associated with properly caring for an animal while engaged in typical college activities and residing in campus housing? Do you believe those responsibilities might exacerbate the student's symptoms in any way? (If you have not had this conversation with the student, we will discuss with the student at a later date.)

We recognize that having an ESA in the residence hall can be a benefit for someone with a significant mental health disorder, but the practical limitations of our housing arrangements make it necessary to carefully consider the impact of the request for an ESA on both the student and the campus community.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this form. If we need additional information, we may contact you at a later date.

Please provide your contact information, sign and date this form (below), and return it to:

Office for Accessibility and Educational Opportunity
Vassar College
124 Raymond Avenue
Box 164
Poughkeepsie, NY 12604

aeo@vassar.edu
fax: 845-437-5715

Contact information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

FAX and/or Email address: _____

Professional Signature: _____

License #: _____

Date: _____