

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
CARSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**REGULATION No. 250  
PROGRAMS**

**SERVICE ANIMALS**

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Pursuant to state and federal law, service animals and service animals in training may accompany students to school, on district transportation or during District events. The service animal may accompany a student to any area within the school that students are normally allowed.

**DEFINITION OF SERVICE ANIMAL**

A service animal means any dog that is “individually trained” to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. A service animal in training means an animal that is being trained to assist or accommodate a person with a disability. Other species of animals, whether wild or domestic, trained or untrained, are not service animals for the purposes of this definition unless otherwise specified in this regulation.

**WORK OR TASKS PERFORMED**

The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be “directly related to the handler’s disability.” Examples of work or tasks include assisting individuals who are blind or have low vision with navigation, alerting individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing to the presence of people or sounds, providing non-violent protection or rescue work, pulling a wheelchair, assisting an individual during a seizure, alerting individuals to the presence of allergens, retrieving items such as medicine or the telephone, providing physical support or assistance with balance and stability to individuals with mobility disabilities, and helping persons with psychiatric or neurological disabilities by preventing or interrupting impulsive or destructive behaviors.

**LOCATION ON BUS**

The student and service animal must be seated in the front row of the school bus for safety reasons. Service animals are required to sit or stand on the floor of the bus, and may not block the aisle.

**ANIMAL UNDER STUDENT’S/HANDLER’S CONTROL**

The student/handler must be in full control of the service animal at all times. The service animal must have a harness, leash, or other tether, unless either the student/handler is unable because of a disability to use a harness, leash, or other tether, or the use of a harness, leash, or other tether would interfere with the service animal’s safe, effective performance of work or tasks, in which

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case the service animal must be otherwise under the student's/handler's control (e.g., voice control, signals, or other effective means).

### **CARE OR SUPERVISION**

The District is not responsible for the care or supervision of a service animal. The student/handler is responsible for walking the animal as well as cleaning and disposing of the animal's waste.

### **OWNER LIABILITY**

Owners of service animals are liable for any harm or injury caused by the animal to other students, staff, visitors, and/or property.

### **INQUIRIES**

The District may not require that the parent/student provide proof of the animal's certification. The District may ask: (a) if the animal is required because of a disability; (b) what work or task the animal has been trained to perform; and (c) if applicable, whether the animal is a service animal in training. The District may deny a request to bring a non-service animal to school or District events. The District will deny transportation for non-assistance/service animals.

### **VACCINATIONS**

The student/handler must possess a current animal vaccination certificate or tag and proper form of identification or animal license in accordance with city or county animal control ordinances (depending on the residence of the animal).

### **REMOVAL OF A SERVICE ANIMAL**

The District may remove a service animal or service animal in training (or limit the animal's access to certain portions of the school campus) if any one of the following circumstances occur:

- a. The animal poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others;
- b. The animal is out of control and the animal's handler does not take effective action to control it (e.g., unprovoked growling or barking, running around causing disruption, or aggressive/vicious behavior towards students/employees);
- c. The animal is not housebroken; or
- d. The animal's presence would "fundamentally alter" the nature of the service, program, or activity.

The school administrator should be notified immediately if there is an issue regarding the service animal. The bus driver will immediately report any issues regarding the service animal to his or her supervisor.

## **REGULATION No. 250 – CONTINUED**

### **SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR MINIATURE HORSES**

Requests to permit the use of a miniature horse during transportation to and from school or District events by a student or adult with a disability, if the miniature horse has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of the student or adult, will be handled on a case-by-case basis, considering:

- a. The type, size, and weight of the miniature horse and whether the bus can accommodate these features.
- b. Whether the handler has sufficient control of the miniature horse.
- c. Whether the miniature horse is housebroken.
- d. Whether the miniature horse's presence on the bus compromises legitimate safety requirements that are necessary for safe operation.

All restrictions above which relate to "service animals" also apply to miniature horses.

### **INTERACTION GUIDELINES**

School administration/bus drivers should inform students/teachers/staff/passengers of the following general interaction guidelines for service animals and service animals in training:

- a. Service animals and service animals in training are working animals, not pets.
- b. Speak to the person first. Do not direct distracting noises at the animal.
- c. Do not touch the service animal without asking for, and receiving, permission.
- d. Do not offer food to the service animal.
- e. Do not ask personal questions about the handler's disability.

### **NOTICE**

Notice must be provided to the school principal at least 48 hours prior to the date the service animal or service animal in training will accompany a student to school, to a school District event, or on the bus. The notification period is required for the health and safety of other students (e.g., known allergies). The school principal will then immediately notify the appropriate individuals.

Americans with Disabilities Act, Title II Regs as amended in 2010, 28 C.F.R. Part 35.  
Nevada Revised Statute 193.021  
Nevada Revised Statute Chapter 426  
Nevada Revised Statute 574.615  
Nevada Revised Statute 651.075

Adopted: July 28, 2015