Bunker Hill Community College Service Animals Policy

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) a service animal (sometimes called an assistance animal) is defined as, "any guide dog, or other animal individually trained to provide assistance to an individual with a disability". A service animal is specifically trained to perform tasks related to the person's disability and is not considered a pet. Both therapy animals and emotional support animals may be part of an individual's therapy or treatment plan, but unless they have been specifically trained to do work or perform tasks related to an individual's disability, they are not to be considered service animals and their use is not protected under the ADA.

All service animals must be registered with the BHCC Disability Support Services Office, located in E222.

The following policies apply to service dogs used on the BHCC campus:

•All service animals must be licensed in accordance with city and county regulations.

•All service animals must be current in their immunizations against diseases specific to the type of animal. Dogs must be vaccinated against rabies, distemper, and parvovirus and other animals must have the appropriate vaccinations that are required for that particular animal. A licensed veterinarian must certify that the animal has been vaccinated and is healthy and free of any communicable diseases.

•The service animal must be leashed and under control of its handler/partner at all times. The care and supervision of the service animal is solely the responsibility if its handler/partner.

•Any animal that is not in control and that poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others may be excluded from the BHCC campus.

•When physically possible, a person with a disability is responsible for cleaning up after his/her service animal. Any individual who is physically unable to clean up should take his/her animal to designated toilet areas whenever possible.

•There may be some areas of the college where a service animal has restricted access. This is to be determined on a case by case basis.