

## 11.2.25 PETS ON CAMPUS POLICY

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### PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to provide for the health and safety of Baylor University students, faculty, staff, and visitors and for the protection of the University's property/assets. This policy is intended to allow pets/service animals on campus in a way that provides for the restraint of these animals and also provides for some protection for those on campus from breeds that have a history of dangerous behavior.

### SCOPE:

This policy applies to all on-campus, University-controlled properties and all athletic facilities. Pets on campus can pose a significant risk to Baylor and its community. This policy standardizes the University's position on the management of animals on Baylor property.

### RESPONSIBILITY:

#### Definitions

- A. University-controlled property - Property that is owned, operated, and/or maintained by the University.
- B. Service Animal - A guide dog, signal dog, or other animal individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability. Police K-9s are also considered a service animal as well as other animals that work for emergency personnel.
- C. Research and Teaching Animals - Approved animals used directly in support of Baylor University's mission of teaching, research, and or clinical programs as used in accordance with guidelines established by the Office of the Vice Provost for Research and the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee.
- D. Pets at Large - An animal that is either unattended and/or unrestrained by its owner.

#### Health & Safety Concerns

Pets can pose various health and safety concerns to the campus community such as allergic reactions to animal dander, excessive noise, animal bites, and disease transmission (i.e., fleas, ticks, parasites, viruses, bacteria, etc.). Individuals with a disability that requires the use of a service animal are at particular risk. For example, a dog running at large poses a hazard to an individual using a service dog, should there be a confrontation between the two animals.

#### Inside/Outside Facility Guidelines

It is prohibited to bring dogs, cats, or other pets inside any University-controlled buildings, except for the animals listed in the exemption section of this policy. While on

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University-controlled properties, pets must be maintained on a leash of six feet or shorter, on a restraining harness, or in a caged enclosure. With the exception of the animals listed in the exemption section, pets are not allowed in/on any athletic facilities (inside or outside). Pets will not be allowed (leashed or unleashed) at any special events or University functions (e.g., Diadeloso, Homecoming, athletic venues, etc.) with the exception of any specific event that has been approved by the Department of Risk Management.

Pet owners are responsible for cleaning up any messes made by their pet. Anyone who brings a pet on University-controlled property assumes all financial responsibility for any damages to property or injury to individuals caused by the animal.

Pets may not be tethered to University buildings, structures, motor vehicles, trees, railings, light poles, benches, posts, or other structures.

**Prohibited Animals (non-service)**

Animals such as poisonous reptiles, constricting snakes (e.g., Boas, Pythons, and Anacondas) and other potentially dangerous or aggressive animals are prohibited from all University-controlled property (inside and outside) at all times, except those used in accepted academic or experimental purposes.

The following breeds of dogs on this non-exhaustive list are also prohibited from all University-owned property:

- A. Pit Bulls
- B. Rottweilers
- C. German Shepherds
- D. Doberman Pinschers
- E. Any hybrids that are mixed with the breeds mentioned above
- F. Non-domesticated animals
- G. Pets with a history of aggressive behavior

**Failure to Comply****A. Prohibited Animals on University-controlled Property**

Any prohibited animals on a University-controlled property must be removed immediately. If a prohibited animal is observed on a University-controlled property, the owner may face disciplinary measures by appropriate authorities which may include Campus Living & Learning, the University's Human Resource Department, and/or Judicial Affairs. Baylor Police Department will enforce this policy.

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#### B. Unattended or Unrestrained Animals

If an unrestrained/unattended animal is observed, a reasonable attempt will be made to locate the animal's owner. If the owner is located, he/she may face disciplinary measures by appropriate authorities which may include Campus Living & Learning, the University's Human Resource Department, and/or Judicial Affairs. Baylor Police Department will enforce this policy. If attempts to find the animal's owner are unsuccessful, the City of Waco Animal Control will be contacted; and they will remove the animal from University property.

#### C. Property Damage

The University will seek restitution for any animal-related damage to University-controlled property, facilities, or grounds. The repair or replacement cost of damaged property is the sole responsibility of the owner of the animal that caused the damage.

#### Exempted Pets and Other Animals

The animals listed below are permitted inside University-controlled property:

- A. Service animals
- B. Research and testing animals
- C. Fish in containers of ten gallons or less
- D. On-duty police K-9s or rescue dogs
- E. Pets in Residence Hall Director or Faculty-in-Residence apartments except those breeds mentioned in the Prohibited Animals section above
- F. Official University mascots

Although these animals are permitted within the buildings and facilities, said animals must remain under the control of the owner at all times. The care or supervision of an exempted animal is solely the responsibility of their owner. Baylor University reserves the right to exclude an exempted animal whose behavior poses a threat to the health or safety of others.

#### References

The prohibited breeds of dogs list mentioned in the Prohibited Animals section of this policy is based on in-depth research conducted by the Center for Disease Control, the Humane Society of the United States, and the American Veterinary Medical Association.

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Formulated: 12/4/09

Reviewed: 12/04/09

Revised: 01/09/2014

[Signature on File] \_\_\_\_\_  
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Chairman, Risk Management Committee  
Assistant Vice President and Chief Risk Management Officer

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Date

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Charles D. Beckenhauer  
General Counsel

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Dr. Reagan Ramsower  
Vice President for Finance and Administration

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Date