

## **Bethany College Residence Life Emotional Support Animal Policy 2019**

ALL PETS MUST BE REGISTERED BY THE STUDENT-OWNER AND APPROVED BY THE OFFICE OF RESIDENCE LIFE PRIOR TO BRINGING THE PET TO CAMPUS. FAILURE TO DO SO MAY RESULT IN REMOVAL OF THE ANIMAL FROM CAMPUS OR A FINE.

In accordance with the Fair Housing Act, Bethany College allows residential students to utilize emotional support animals. Emotional support animals are classified, according to the ADA national Network\*, as companionship animals that may aid a human with loneliness, depression, and anxiety, among other mental health concerns. Emotional support animals are not considered service animals as they do not help humans perform tasks or have the same training and discipline. Bethany College has the following policies in place to ensure the protection and comfort of students, with and without emotional support animals, and the animals living in the halls. If mistreatment or neglect is occurring to either the animal or Bethany College property, Bethany College has the right to have the animal removed from campus. If a residential student does not follow policy, Bethany College has the right to remove the animal from campus immediately.

### **Annually Students with Emotional Support Animals must:**

1. Register their ESA with Student Development before the animal is brought to campus, including all paperwork and deposit.
2. Pay a \$250 damage deposit. This deposit may be refundable upon checkout.
3. Have updated ESA vaccination paperwork with Student Development.
4. Keep their ESA in their room
  - a. ESA are not allowed to be loose in lobbies or hallways.
  - b. ESAs are not allowed to be kept in other students' rooms.
5. Maintain the animal's health and well-being.
  - a. Students must keep animals up-to-date on all shots and proper grooming.
6. Pay for any damage to Bethany College property caused by their animal.
7. Clean up after their ESA inside and outside.
8. Keep their animal on a leash or in a cage when the animal is outside their room
9. They must take their ESA with them when leaving campus overnight (includes breaks and when halls are closed).
10. Live in Gregory Hall.
  - a. All students with ESAs must live in Gregory Hall unless they are Good Life students, then they will live in a specified hallway of New Hall.

### **Emotional Support Animal Registration at Bethany College Includes:**

1. Signed Bethany College ESA contract
2. Up-to-date vaccination record and proof of spay or neuter for ESA
3. Letter from mental health professional
4. City of Lindsborg registration form signed by city clerk (dogs only)
5. \$250 damage deposit

**Students must have all of their paperwork completed and turned into the Student Development Office before an animal is brought to campus.**

### **Emotional Support Animal Deposit**

1. Students must pay a \$250 deposit to the business office before they can be allowed to bring their ESA on to campus.
2. This deposit may be refundable if the student checks out of the residence hall and no damage to Bethany College property has been assessed by housing staff.
3. If the ESA damages property at a value that exceeds the deposit, the student will be billed for the remaining cost to cover repairs.

### **Emotional Support Animals Must**

1. Be at least 1 year of age or older
  - a. Students and emotional support animals live closely together in the residence halls. Disease can spread if the animal does not have all of its vaccinations. Animals that are too young for all vaccinations may be susceptible to disease and illness.
2. Be spayed or neutered
  - a. Animals must be fixed to prevent behavior issues, pregnancy, and accidents.
3. Be house trained
4. Dogs must be registered with the City of Lindsborg and comply with the Lindsborg's dog breed restrictions.
5. Must be friendly with both people and animals

Please email Director for Residential Education and Services Anna Waugh at [waughaj@bethanylb.edu](mailto:waughaj@bethanylb.edu) with questions.

## **Bethany College Residence Life Emotional Support Animal Agreement**

With respect to a request for a service or assistance animal, Bethany College will determine, on a case by case basis, and in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, whether such animal is a reasonable accommodation on campus. In doing so, Bethany College must balance the needs of the individual with the impact of animals on other campus patrons.

Consistent with federal and state law, a service or assistance animal may be prohibited from a Bethany College facility or program if the animal's behavior or presence poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others. It may be excluded from areas where its presence fundamentally alters the nature of a program or activity, if the animal is disruptive, if its presence would result in substantial physical damage to the property of others, or if it substantially interferes with the reasonable enjoyment of the housing or public accommodation by others.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have been permitted keep an emotional support animal in my residence hall, \_\_\_\_\_, and agree to the following conditions:

- A. I shall keep my support animal in my room, and not permit the animal to reside in any other room in the residence hall. The support animal does not have the right to enter another residence hall or building on-campus.
- B. If my ESA is found in another room, I may be asked to remove my ESA.
- C. I agree to keep my support animal current on all vaccines and health protocols.
- D. I will turn in new ESA vaccination records every year to the Office of Student Development.
- E. I will sign a new ESA contract every year.
- F. I will take full and singular responsibility for any damages to the residence hall and/or my room caused by my support animal.
- G. If damages are deemed excessive or severe, I may be asked to remove my ESA from the residence hall.
- H. I will take full and singular responsibility for the conduct of my ESA. If the conduct of my support animal is deemed excessive or severe, poses a continual threat to the community, or significantly disrupts the housing of other students, I may be asked to remove my support animal from the residence hall.
- I. Abuse of my ESA is not tolerated and will result in my ESA being removed from campus.
- J. Violent acts by an ESA will not be tolerated.
- K. Off campus incidents will still be considered for on campus living.
- L. It is my responsibility to ensure the above is completed each year. If not, I may be asked to remove my ESA.

I understand that the violation of any of the above stipulations could result in the removal of my ESA by Bethany College Residence Life.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ ID-number \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_