



Code: **ING**
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Animals in District Facilities

Animals are generally prohibited on district property. Only service animals¹ serving persons with a disability and animals approved by the superintendent that are part of an approved district curriculum or cocurricular activity are allowed in district facilities. These animals are generally to be on a leash when in district facilities and on school grounds.

The following guidelines apply to animals in district schools:

1. Permission must be obtained from the principal before animals are brought into the school. Special consideration should be given to the effect of furred and feathered animals on allergic students/staff prior to granting permission;
2. The owner and teacher will be responsible for the proper control of animals brought to school for instructional purposes, including the effective protection of students when animals are in the school;
3. Animals, except those service animals serving persons with a disability, may not be transported on a district bus;
4. The teacher must assume primary responsibility that the animals in his/her classroom are adequately housed and cared for in secure cages. The housing must be kept in a clean, sanitary condition and free from odor;
5. Only the teacher or students designated by the teacher are to handle the animals;
6. Staff members or students who have been bitten or otherwise injured by an animal shall immediately report such incident to the principal and the nurse. The principal should notify the public health authorities if the injury merits medical follow-up. An animal that bites or otherwise injures anyone

¹The American with Disabilities Act definition of “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. Companion and comfort animals are not considered service animals. Other species of animals, whether wild or domestic, trained or untrained, are not service animals for the purposes of this definition. The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the individual’s disability. Examples of work or tasks include, but are not limited to, assisting individuals who are blind or have low vision with navigation and other tasks, 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 and assistance with balance and stability to individuals with mobility disabilities, and helping persons with psychiatric and neurological disabilities by preventing or interrupting impulsive or destructive behaviors. The crime deterrent effects of an animal’s presence and the provision of emotional support, well-being, comfort or companionship do not constitute work or tasks for the purposes of this definition. The law and its regulations also make an allowance for miniature horses.

must be removed from the premises and cannot be returned to any district classroom or school in the future;

7. If animals are to be kept in the classroom on days when classes are not in session, the teacher must make arrangements for their care;
8. Vaccinations should be documented for appropriate animals;
9. Wild, poisonous or exotic animals are prohibited unless they are under the direct supervision of a trained representative and have the principal's authorization;
10. Animal owners will be legally responsible for damage done to persons and property in district facilities and on district grounds.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 332.107](#)
[ORS 659A.400](#)

[OAR 581-053-0010](#)
[OAR 581-053-0230\(9\)\(j\)](#)
[OAR 581-053-0330\(1\)\(q\)](#)

[OAR 581-053-0430\(16\)](#)
[OAR 581-053-0531\(15\)](#)

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. §§ 12101-12213 (2006); 28 CFR §§ 35.104, 35.136 (2006).
Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008.