

Animals on Campus Policy

Controlled Document – refer to Intranet for latest version

Category: People and Safety

Date Created: April 2016

Responsibility: Health and Safety Manager

Date Last Reviewed: May 2019

Approval: Chief Executive

Version: 19.1

Purpose

This purpose of this policy is to ensure that animals being brought on to UCOL property have a legitimate purpose for being on campus and are therefore not a cause of distraction, nuisance, hazard or risk.

Scope

This policy covers all UCOL campuses and sites and is applicable to all staff, students and contractors of UCOL.

Responsibility

The Health and Safety Manager is responsible for determining health and safety exceptions to the policy as indicated below in consultation with the Director of Facilities Management on the use of UCOL facilities.

Policy Statements

1. Animals being brought on to campus for the purpose of teaching and learning are permitted providing they are contained within the teaching area. For example, a dog may be brought in for teaching use in the Veterinary Nursing programme but it must be contained within the veterinary nursing teaching and containment space.
2. Disability Assist Dogs are permitted on campus but must be kept on a non-extendable leash and under control by their owner at all times.
 - a. Students with Disability Assist Dogs must register with Disability Support Services.
 - b. Staff with Disability Assist Dogs must register with Health & Safety.
 - c. Registration information (not health information) will be shared with Health and Safety, Facilities Management and Faculty's or Departments.
3. Dogs used for training purposes by Police or other emergency or recovery organisations are permitted on campus during training or actual emergency situations and will be under the control of the officer undertaking the exercise.

4. Staff, students and contractors are required to not engage with Disability Assist Dogs (DAD) or emergency/recovery organisations dogs that come on to UCOL campuses, unless they are requested otherwise by the dog handler. This is to ensure the Disability Assist Dogs (DAD) is not distracted.
5. If a dog or other animal behaves inappropriately causing injury, endangerment, intimidation, or otherwise causing distress to any person on campus the dog owner will be required to comply with instructions given by the Health and Safety Manager or the Director Facilities Management.
6. Staff, students, visitors and contractors are not permitted to bring any animal on campus unless they are for the purposes outlined in 1 or 2 above without the written permission of the Health and Safety Manager.

Relevant Legislation

- Health and Safety at Work Act 2015

Definition and Related Documentation

“Disability Assist Dog” means a dog certified by one of the following organisations as being a dog trained to assist (or as being a dog in training to assist) a person with a disability.

- Hearing Dogs for Deaf People New Zealand
- Mobility Assistance Dogs Trust
- New Zealand Epilepsy Assist Dogs Trust
- Royal New Zealand Foundation of the Blind
- Top Dog Companion Trust
- Perfect Partners Assistance Dogs Trust
- Assistance Dogs New Zealand Trust
- Caninefriends Companion Dogs (that are part of an event or programme)
- An organisation specified in an Order in Council made under section 78D of the Dog Control Act 1996

(Source: Department of Internal Affairs website/Resource Material/Dog Control)