



UH IBC Policy

APPENDIX G: Service Animals in Facilities Overseen by the UH IBC

Version 12/12/18

Position

The following will apply to service animals (animals) as defined (Ref. 1) for facilities overseen by the University of Hawai'i (UH) Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC). Pets belonging to colleagues, contingent workers or visitors are discussed under separate policy, UH Mānoa M11.102 Animals on Campus (ref 5).

The IBC recognizes the important roles service animals play. However, there are health and safety concerns that animals may pose in laboratories (labs), as well as the potential risks and liabilities to colleagues that may be associated with these animals. These include, but not limited to, allergies affecting some individuals who may be sensitive to the proteins found in animal dander, skin flakes, saliva, and urine. Unlike people, who can wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), animals may have increased exposure to biological commodities in the lab, and could potentially transfer these commodities outside of the lab on their bodies. They may also inadvertently introduce biological commodities into the lab such as, but not limited to, fleas, ticks, other parasites, bacteria, and viruses. Rights of individuals need to be respected, and the presence of animals may also result in stress to some individuals who may feel threatened or be distracted by them. Though service dogs are usually well behaved in public, there is always the potential for them to attack other people and/or dogs, and/or be disruptive in their surroundings, and/or cause property damage, especially if they have not been appropriately screened for temperament and trained properly.

- Service animals are not permitted in any laboratories/classrooms overseen by the IBC requiring BSL2 or ABSL2 or higher practices. This is based on the Center for Disease Control's Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories, 6th Edition, which states:
 - BSL2 and higher Special Practices, "Animals and plants not associated with work being performed must not be permitted in the laboratory."
 - ABSL2 and higher Standard Microbiological Practices, "Animals and plants not associated with the work being performed must not be permitted in the areas where infectious materials and/or animals are housed or manipulated."
- Students with disabilities working in a BSL2 or higher lab, will be provided an alternative learning experience by the instructor, if the student feels they cannot enter without the service animal.
- Requests for service animals, are restricted to service dogs entering ABSL1 or BSL1 or

lower spaces, and will be handled on a case-by-case basis by the unit to whom the request is made, if reasonable accommodations can be made. See process below.

- Service animals are not permitted in the biomedical and neuroscience vivarium. The welfare of the resident laboratory animals is of primary concern. This is based on the concerns described above. In addition, a service animal may cause additional stress to the resident animals by creating a predator-prey relationship. These become confounding factors affecting animal research in the vivarium.

Process

- Individuals requesting to use a service dog in an BSL1/ABSL1 Laboratories/classroom overseen by the IBC, complete form *Request to Use Service Dog in Labs/Classrooms Overseen by the IBC* (attached).
- When a request to use a service dog is entertained, only two questions may be asked of the requestor:
 - Is the dog a service animal required because of a disability?
 - What work, or task has the dog been trained to perform?

We may NOT ask the requestor what their disability is nor to ask the dog to perform the task it is used for.

- Owners of the service dog are required to provide health, vaccination history of the dog, including current flea/tick control information from a veterinarian licensed in the United States of America (USA) by having them complete *Request to Use Service Dog in Labs/Classrooms Overseen by the IBC* form (attached). In some cases, the service dog may be required to undergo a “quarantine” period if they are to enter facilities using similar species present.
- Owners of a service dog are required to follow the guidelines described in University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa M11.102 Animals on Campus policy (Ref. 5).
- The Dean of the College to whom the individual reports will authorize the use of the service dog, in consultation with the Biosafety Program, is responsible for assisting with the interpretation and application of this policy and coordinating efforts with the Environmental Health and Safety Office, Animal and Veterinary Services Program, Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, Office for Students with Disabilities (KOKUA), and other University groups.
- An individual requesting to use a service animal must acknowledge in writing that they understand the ADA rules and the State rules regarding service dogs, by reviewing the material found at University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, M11.102 Animals on Campus prepared by KOKUA Program.

- A dog that is not well behaved, not under control, destructive to its surroundings, or not potty trained, even if the individual claims it is a service dog, can be removed from the facility.
- In case of an emergency, service dogs may be asked to be removed from the premises for health and safety reasons.
- Individual sends completed form to the Biosafety Compliance Office, uhibc@Hawaii.edu for review and approval prior to use of service dog in IBC overseen BSL1/ABSL1 laboratories.

Procedures:

Violations of this policy should be directed to the appropriate Dean, Director, or Department Chair.

Definitions and References

- Service Animal – The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) defines service animals as “dogs that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities. Examples of such work or tasks include guiding people who are blind, alerting people who are deaf, pulling a wheelchair, alerting and protecting a person who is having a seizure, reminding a person with mental illness to take prescribed medications, calming a person with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) during an anxiety attack, or performing other duties. Service animals are working animals, not pets. The work or task a dog has been trained to provide must be directly related to the person’s disability. Dogs whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support do not qualify as service animals under the ADA.

The definition does not affect or limit the broader definition of “assistance animal” under the Fair Housing Act or the broader definition of “service animal” under the Air Carrier Access Act.

Some State and local laws also define service animal more broadly than the ADA does. Information about such laws can be obtained from the State attorney general’s office.”

See ADA Service Animals revised regulations published September 15, 2010.
https://www.ada.gov/service_animals_2010.htm

- Hawaii Revised Statutes §515-3 Chapter 10 Service Animals further defines <http://health.Hawaii.gov/dcab/ada-coordination/state-of-Hawaii-ada-resources/programs-and-services-manual/chapter-10-service-animals/>

- Hawai‘i Revised Statutes §347-2.5 Service dog, defined
[https://www.lawserver.com/law/state/Hawai‘i/hi-statutes/Hawai‘i_statutes_347-2- 5](https://www.lawserver.com/law/state/Hawai'i/hi-statutes/Hawai'i_statutes_347-2-5)
- Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) Programs and Services Manual, Excerpts from Chapter 2 General Nondiscrimination Requirements based on Hawai‘i Revised Statutes, chapter 368. [http://health.Hawai‘i.gov/dcab/ada-coordination/state-of-Hawai‘i-ada-resources/programs-and-services-manual/chapter-2-general-nondiscrimination-requirements/](http://health.Hawai'i.gov/dcab/ada-coordination/state-of-Hawai'i-ada-resources/programs-and-services-manual/chapter-2-general-nondiscrimination-requirements/)
- University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, M11.102 Animals on Campus prepared by KOKUA Program.

[https://www.Hawai‘i.edu/kokua/access-services/service-or-assistance- animals.php](https://www.Hawai'i.edu/kokua/access-services/service-or-assistance-animals.php)

University of Hawai'i at Manoa, M11.102 Animals on Campus
prepared by KOKUA Program.

<https://www.hawaii.edu/kokua/access-services/service-or-assistance-animals.php>

Request to Use Service Dog in BSL1/ABSL1 Laboratories Overseen by the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)

(revised 4/12/19)

Send completed form to the UH IBC at uhibc@hawaii.edu

Date of Request (month/day/year): Start Date: _____ End Date: _____
Name of Dog _____ Sex: Male Female Neutered/Spayed? Yes No

Description of Dog: _____ Weight of dog (pounds): _____

Facility where dog will be used: Campus: _____ Building: _____ Room: _____

IBC Registration Number under which service dog will be used: _____

Type of Activity: Teaching Laboratory/Classroom Research Laboratory

1. Is the dog a service animal required because of a disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act?
https://www.ada.gov/service_animals_2010.htm Check the box:

Yes No

2. What specialized work, or task has the dog been trained to perform? Provide a short description.

I acknowledge that I have read and will comply with the ADA rules and the Hawaii State rules regarding **service dogs**, based on the information found in Policy M11.102 Animals on Campus http://manoa.hawaii.edu/policies/pdfs/Animals_On_Campus.pdf

Print Individual's Name _____ Signature of Individual _____ Date _____

Certification by a Veterinarian Licensed in the United States of America (USA):

I certify that the dog described above is current on vaccinations and flea/tick control, and is in good health to perform the tasks described above. Date next vaccinations are due _____

Print Name of Veterinarian _____ Signature of Veterinarian _____ Date _____

Authorization by Principal Investigator (PI):

Print Name of PI _____ Signature of PI _____ Date _____

Authorization by Dean of the College:

Print Name of Dean _____ Signature of Dean _____