SERVICE ANIMALS

In keeping with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Florida Atlantic University (FAU) welcomes service animals. Service animals are dogs individually trained to do work or to perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability. Disabilities can be physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or mental. Examples of tasks performed by service animals include pulling a wheelchair, retrieving dropped items, alerting a person to a sound, reminding a person to take medication, or pressing an elevator button.

Service dogs have unlimited access to campus facilities and must be under their owner’s control at all times. If a student has a service animal, s/he should be prepared to answer the following questions:

1. Is your dog a service animal required because of a disability?
2. What work or task has the dog been trained to perform?

Student Accessibility Services (SAS) is an FAU department where students with disabilities can receive modifications, known as accommodations, to their academic courses or to their campus housing assignment. Students with a qualifying medical, physical, or psychological disability must register with SAS in order to receive accommodations. Students with service animals are not required to register their service animal with SAS unless academic accommodations are requested.

DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

- Documentation must be in the form of a letter or report from a licensed physician, psychologist, psychiatrist or other medical provider who is qualified to make the diagnosis. For example, a family doctor is not an appropriate clinician to provide documentation for an anxiety disorder.

- Documentation must be on official letterhead and should be signed and dated within the last two years. A copy of the clinician’s business card is helpful.

- Include a specific diagnosis, a statement of the student’s current condition, the date and a summary of the most recent evaluation, and the expected duration of the condition.

- State the current impact of, or functional limitations, imposed by the condition on academics.

Registering with SAS

There are two steps to apply for services:

2. Provide appropriate documentation. Following are documentation requirements.
   * Documentation on prescription pad is not accepted. IEPs/504 plans are not acceptable as documentation. Documentation requirements are firm.

Revised 4/17
• Explain how the condition relates to the accommodation(s) recommended. There must be a direct link established between the functional limitations of the condition and the accommodations requested.

• Clearly state recommendations for academic accommodations as a result of the condition.

• Include evidence the provider is currently treating the student for the condition for which the accommodation is requested.

Applications for Support Services are accepted at any time; however, it may take one to two weeks for your application to be processed, even with adequate documentation. If the documentation submitted is inadequate, the processing time will increase.

APPLICATION REVIEW

Once the Application for Academic Accommodations and documentation are submitted, they will be reviewed by SAS. Incomplete applications are not accepted. The student will be notified if any documentation is missing and will be asked to submit additional documentation to meet the requirements. The cost for obtaining appropriate documentation is the student’s responsibility.

If the documentation requirements are met and the Application is complete, the student will meet with an SAS consultant for a collaborative interview to discuss possible academic accommodations.