

Documentation Supporting an Assistance Animal as a Reasonable Residential Accommodation at Elizabethtown College

In my capacity as the treating health care provider (physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, social worker, or mental health worker) I am recommending that having an Assistance Animal in the residence hall will be helpful in alleviating one or more of the identified symptoms or effects of the above named student's disability. I understand that the information I provide below will be used to help determine: 1) whether the student meets the criteria for an individual with a disability under federal law and 2) any appropriate and reasonable accommodation(s) which could provide equitable access to Elizabethtown College's programs, activities and services. I understand you may contact me for clarification or to talk with me by telephone about this process.

Your Contact information: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

FAX and/or Email address: _____

Professional Signature: _____

License #: _____

Date: _____

Requesting student's Name: _____

Please provide the following information on professional letterhead:

Information about the students' disability:

1. A clear statement of the condition(s), including diagnosis and expected duration of the condition.
2. The basis for your diagnosis and date of onset.
3. How long and how often you have been working with the student regarding this mental health diagnosis?
4. The positive and adverse effects of any prescribed medications.
5. The functional impact or limitations of the condition.
6. The severity of the impact of the condition on the student's performance of major life activities in comparison to most people in the general population

Information about the Assistance Animal:

1. Is this an animal that you specifically prescribed as part of treatment for the student, or is it a pet that you believe will have a beneficial effect for the student while in residence on campus?
2. Is this animal known to the student, or it is a relatively unknown (i.e. shelter) animal?

Information about the relationship between the student's disability and the proposed Assistance Animal:

1. Is there evidence that an Assistance Animal has helped this student in the past or currently?
2. What symptoms will be reduced by having the Assistance Animal in the residential unit?
3. If you believe that the Assistance Animal is *necessary* to enable the student to live on campus, please explain the basis of your opinion, why you deem the animal *necessary* and why any other accommodation would be insufficient to permit the student to live in campus housing absent the use of the animal.
4. What consequences, in terms of disability symptomology, may result if the accommodation is not approved?
5. Please indicate whether you discussed the responsibilities associated with properly caring for an animal while engaged in typical college activities and residing in campus housing? Do you believe those responsibilities might exacerbate the student's symptoms in any way? (If you have not had this conversation with the student, we will discuss with the student at a later date.)