

Missoula County Public Schools
Community Relations 4318
Service Animals

The District will comply with all state and federal laws, regulations, and rules regarding the use of service animals by a staff member, student, and community member required because that individual has a disability and the service animal is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of that individual.

A service animal is 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. Other species of animals, whether wild or domestic, trained or untrained, are not service animals for the purposes of this policy. The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the individual's disability. 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 District may permit the use of a miniature horse by an individual with a disability under circumstances established by the Superintendent.

The Superintendent will establish procedures regarding the use of service animals by individuals with disabilities.

Legal References:

42 U.S.C. § 12111 et seq.	Americans with Disabilities Act
28 C.F.R. §§ 35.104, 35.136	Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability in State and Local Government Services

Cross References:

Special Education and Accommodations
Section 504 Procedural Safeguard
Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities
Equal Employment Opportunity

Policy History:

Proposed at Personnel, Negotiations and Policy Committee on: June 27, 2012 and posted for public comment.

Adopted on: August 14, 2012