



The Saluda Counseling Center
2400 West Main Street
Rock Hill, SC 29732

SERVICE ANIMALS, SUPPORT ANIMALS, AND PET POLICY

SECTION I: SERVICE ANIMALS

Under the ADA (Americans with Disability Act), a service animal is defined as a dog that has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability. The task(s) performed by the dog must be directly related to the person's disability.

Service animals are not pets.

The dog must be trained to take a specific action when needed to assist the person with a disability. The dog must already be trained before it can be taken into public places.

In situations where it is not obvious that the dog is a service animal, the Saluda Counseling Center staff may ask one to two specific questions as outlined by the ADA to determine whether the dog is a service animal.

The ADA requires that service animals be under the control of the handler at all times. The service animal must be harnessed, leashed or tethered while in public places unless these devices interfere with the service animal's work or the person's disability prevents use of these devices. Under control also means that a service animal should not be allowed to bark repeatedly.

If a service animal is out of control and the handler does not take effective action to control it, staff may request that the animal be removed from the premises.

The handler is responsible for caring for and supervising the service animal, which includes toileting, feeding, and grooming and veterinary care. The Saluda Counseling Center is not obligated to supervise or otherwise care for a service animal.

SECTION II: SUPPORT ANIMALS

An emotional support, therapy, comfort, or companion animal is **not** considered a service animal. These terms are used to describe animals that provide comfort just by being with a person. Because they have not been trained to perform a specific job or task, they do not qualify as service animals under the ADA.

Support animals are not allowed inside the building of the main office or additional office locations.

SECTION III: PETS

Pets are not allowed inside the building of the main office or additional office locations.