

Colona District Public Library Service Animals

It is the policy of the Colona District Public Library to comply with the US Department of Justice Civil Rights Division Disability Rights Section ADA 2010 Revised Requirements through the formulation of this policy. See ADA Service Animals (https://www.ada.gov/service_animals_2010.htm) for further information.

Service Dogs

- Beginning March 15, 2011, only dogs are recognized as service animals under titles II and III of the ADA.
- A service animal is a dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for a person with a disability.
- Generally, title II and title III entities must permit service animals to accompany people with disabilities in all areas where members of the public are allowed to go.

Miniature Horses

- **In addition to the provisions about service dogs, the Department of Justice's revised ADA regulations have a new, separate provision about miniature horses that have been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities.**
- Miniature horses generally range in height from 24 inches to 34 inches measured to the shoulders and generally weigh between 70 and 100 pounds.
- Regulations set out four assessment factors to assist entities in determining whether miniature horses can be accommodated in their facility. The assessment factors are (1) whether the miniature horse is housebroken; (2) whether the miniature horse is under the owner's control; (3) whether the facility can accommodate the miniature horse's type, size, and weight; and (4) whether the miniature horse's presence will not compromise legitimate safety requirements necessary for safe operation of the facility.

Out-of-Control Service Dogs and Miniature Horses

- Library staff may ask a person with a disability to remove their service dog/horse from the library if and only if the dog/horse is out of control and the handler does not take effective action to control it, or if the dog/horse is not housebroken.
- When there is a legitimate reason to ask that a service animal be removed, staff must offer the person with the disability the opportunity to obtain goods or services without the animal's presence.

The dog (or miniature horse) is not required to wear a vest, and the library may not ask for certification of any kind.

If you are unsure whether the dog is a service animal, you are permitted to ask these two questions (and only these questions): Is the dog a service animal required because of a disability? And what work or task has the animal been trained to perform?

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