

Service Animal Policy

Barnard College has established the following policy regarding Service Animals to assist individuals with disabilities. Being mindful of health and safety concerns of the campus community, Barnard College generally prohibits the presence of privately-owned animals (or pets) on campus. However, the College will reasonably allow access for persons with disabilities who require the assistance of Service Animals. Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), a service animal is defined as a dog (or, in some cases, a miniature horse) that has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability. The task(s) performed by the service animal must be directly related to the person's disability.

Service Animals are generally allowed to accompany their handlers in any building or public space where their handlers are permitted (exceptions may exist in sterile environments and areas requiring protective equipment or clothing for access). If a Service Animal's role is not apparent by observation, you may be asked "Is that a service animal for a disability?" and "What service does it perform for you?" Service Animals in Training are not recognized by federal law but are recognized by New York State law.

Barnard College does not require individuals with Service Animals to register with the Center for Accessibility Resources & Disability Services or to provide documentation. However, if you have questions, would like assistance planning for a Service Animal at Barnard College, or have a concern about your access when accompanied by your Service Animal, you are encouraged to contact the Center for Accessibility Resources & Disability Services (CARDS). CARDS can help notify community members of your need for a service animal for disability-related access and can review any additional requests for accommodation with you that you may have. The successful implementation of this policy requires the cooperation of all students, faculty, staff and visitors of the Barnard community. Barnard College reserves the right to amend this policy as circumstances require.