AIMS COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROCEDURE

SERVICE ANIMALS

Only service animals assisting individuals with disabilities are generally permitted in all facilities and programs at Aims Community College except as described below. This procedure excepted, NO animals are allowed on Aims Community College campuses per procedure 3-710B.

I. Definition

“Service animal” is defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) as any dog individually trained to do work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability, including, but not limited to, guiding individuals who are blind, alerting individuals who are deaf, pulling a wheelchair, alerting and protecting an individual who is having a seizure, reminding an individual with mental illness to take prescribed medications, calming an individual with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) during an anxiety attack, or performing other duties. Service animals are working animals, not pets. The work or task a dog has been trained to provide must be directly related to the individual’s disability. Dogs whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support do not qualify as service animals.

II. General Considerations

A service animal must be under the control of its handler and have a harness, leash, or other tether, unless the handler is unable to use one because of a disability or such use would interfere with the animal’s safe, effective performance of work or tasks, in which case the service animal must be otherwise under the handler’s control by way of voice control, signals, or other effective means at all times.

The care and supervision of a service animal is the sole responsibility of the individual handler.

III. When a Service Animal May be Asked to Leave or Prohibited in an Aims Community College Facility or Program

A service animal may be asked to leave a facility or program for the following reasons:

a. The animal is out of control and the animal’s handler does not take effective action to control it; or

b. The animal is not housebroken.

If a service animal is asked to leave, the individual will have the opportunity to participate without the service animal.
Service animals may also be excluded in areas where the presence of a service animal fundamentally alters the nature of a program or activity, or when there is a direct threat to the health or safety of others. Examples may include, but are not limited to, research labs, areas requiring protective clothing, food preparation areas.

In addition, animals not covered under the ADA service animal definition will be asked to leave a facility or program. Questions related to the use of service animals on campus should be directed to the ADA Coordinator at 970-339-6388.

IV. Visitors

Service animals accompanying individuals with disabilities are welcome in all areas of campus that are open to the public (except in situations determined to apply under section III. above). Specific questions related to the use of service animals at Aims Community College campus by visitors can be directed to the ADA Coordinator at 970-339-6388 or disabilities@aims.edu.

V. Appeals and Grievances

Any person dissatisfied with a decision concerning a service animal can use the Aims Community College grievance process for discrimination and ADA complaints, Aims Community College Procedure 4-101B.

VI. Local Requirements for Service Animals

**Vaccination:** Service animals must be immunized against diseases common to that type of animal. All vaccinations must be current. Dogs must wear a rabies vaccination tag. Greely Colorado City Code: 7.16.010 Inoculation required for dogs, cats and ferrets. The owner of every dog, cat and ferret over the age of six (6) months shall cause such dog, cat or ferret to be inoculated against rabies, and the owner shall obtain from a licensed veterinarian a rabies vaccination certificate containing the following information: the name, address and telephone number of the owner of the vaccinated animal, the date of the vaccination, the date of expiration of the vaccination, the year and number of the rabies tag and the breed, age, color and sex of the vaccinated animal. (Ord. 8, 2006 §1; Ord. 52, 1985 §1(part)).

**Licensing:** The City of Greeley ordinance requires all dogs to be licensed. Greeley Colorado City code: 7.20.010 Dog or cat license required. Except as otherwise provided in Chapter 7 of the Greeley Colorado City Code, any person within this City owning, keeping, harboring or having custody of any dog or cat shall obtain a license for such animal in the manner specified in this Chapter. (Ord. 12, 1990 §3(part); Ord. 52, 1985 §1(part)). 7.20.020 Deadline for application; nonresident exception. An applicant for a dog or cat license shall apply for a license immediately after having become the owner of or after having begun to keep, harbor or have custody of any such dog or cat or immediately after such dog or cat is brought into this City; provided, however, that this requirement does not apply to a nonresident keeping a dog or cat within the City for not longer than sixty (60) days. (Ord. 12, 1990 §3(part); Ord. 52, 1985 §1(part)). 7.20.100 Exceptions to requirements. Dogs specifically trained to aid or assist handicapped or
disabled persons and governmental police dogs are excepted from the licensing requirements and from payment of such fees as are set out in Chapter 7 of the Greeley Colorado City Code. Any owner claiming any of these exceptions has the burden of proving to the satisfaction of the licensing authority that the dog in question is entitled to such exception. (Ord. 61, 1996 §1; Ord. 52, 1985 §1(part)).

Owner ID and Other Tags: The City of Greeley requires dogs to wear an owner identification tag at all times. Greeley Colorado City Ordinance: 7.20.060 Wearing tags required. Dogs shall wear the tags issued according to Section 7.20.050 of the Greeley City Ordinance at all times while outside of the owner's premises unless, for purposes of training, the dog is wearing a training collar. (Ord. 8, 2006 §1; Ord. 52, 1985 §1(part)).

7.20.100 Exceptions to requirements. Dogs specially trained to aid or assist handicapped or disabled persons and governmental police dogs are excepted from the licensing requirements and from payment of such fees as are set out in Chapter 7 of the Greeley Colorado City Code. Any owner claiming any of these exceptions has the burden of proving to the satisfaction of the licensing authority that the dog in question is entitled to such exception. (Ord. 61, 1996 §1; Ord. 52, 1985 §1(part)).

Leash and Under Control: Animals must be on a leash at all times, unless impracticable or unfeasible due to owner/keeper’s disability. Greeley Colorado City Code 7.14.010 Control required. No owner of any animal shall permit such animal to run at large within the City. If any animal is found at any place within the City other than the premises of its owner, the owner is rebuttably presumed to have violated this Section. (Ord. 52, 1985 §1(part)).

Cleanup Rule: The owner/keeper of a service animal must follow the City of Greeley ordinance in cleaning up after the animal defecates. Greeley Colorado City Code: 7.28.080 Excreta; owner responsible for removal. The owner of every animal shall immediately remove or cause to be removed any excreta deposited by such animal in public areas, recreational areas or private property which is not his or her own. (Ord. 52, 1985 §1(part)).

Assistance Dogs in Training: Colorado law allows assistance dogs in training that are accompanied by a trainer admission to facilities.

VII. Miniature Horses

Although miniature horses do not fall under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) definition of a service animal, when reasonable, a miniature horse may be used by an individual with a disability if the miniature horse has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of the individual with a disability. (28 C.F.R. § 35.136(i)).

Miniature horses may be permitted if Aims Community College is able to reasonably modify its’ policies, practices, or procedures to permit the use of a miniature horse once the following assessment factors have been met.
a. Whether the facility is able to accommodate the type, size and weight of the miniature horse;

b. Whether the handler has sufficient control of the miniature horse;

c. Whether the miniature horse is housebroken; and

d. Whether the miniature horse’s presence in a specific facility compromises legitimate safety requirements that are necessary for safe operation.

(Miniature horses generally range in height from 24-inches to 34-inches measured to the shoulder and generally weigh between 70 and 100 pounds.)

FINAL APPROVAL: Dr. Marsi Liddell
Aims Community College President
DATE: March 21, 2011

REVISED: December 17, 2012