



service animal
dogs; in some cases,
miniature horses



therapy animal
any animal



emotional support animal
any animal (with exclusions)

Definition	Applicable state/federal laws	Registered or certified	Required training	Training to assist one person	Must wear a leash or vest identifying the animal <small>*May be required by a community association</small>	Primary function to provide emotional support through companionship	Provide emotional support and comfort to many people	Allowed by Federal law (Air Carrier Access Act) to accompany handler on flights	Allowed by Federal law to accompany handler in restaurants, stores, movie theaters, etc.	Allowed by federal law to stay with people with disabilities in community associations that have "no pet" policies
Specifically trained to work or perform tasks for individuals with disabilities	Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Fair Housing Act (FHA)	Service animals are subject to local dog licensing and registration requirements	✓	✓	X	X	X	✓	✓	✓
Provides psychological or physiological benefit to individuals or groups in a clinical environment	State and local laws	X	X	X	X	X	✓	X	X	X
Provides comfort for people with disabilities	Fair Housing Act (FHA)	X (reliable documentation from a physician, psychiatrist, etc. may be requested under FHA)	X	X	X	✓	X	✓	X Check state and local laws.	✓ Reasonable accommodations required under FHA .

*There is no nationally recognized certifying agency and no certification granted to service, therapy, emotional support, or other assistance-type animals. Neither the Federal Housing Administration nor the Americans with Disabilities Act require service animal "certification." A number of reputable agencies certify that an animal has participated in their programs, completed training courses, or otherwise meets the criteria for a service animal. These are legitimate, but not official, and they offer no guarantee of an animal's status. Beware of fraudulent service-animal certifications that are easily available for purchase online. To learn more visit www.HUD.gov or www.ADA.gov.

Information in this chart does not constitute a legal opinion. Some state and local statutes may differ from the information presented here. Questions regarding pet issues and service animals should always be referred to an attorney when legal advice is needed.