

## **DCTC Policy 5.312 Animals on Campus**

### **Part 1. Purpose**

Dakota County Technical College (DCTC) is committed to providing its employees, students, and visitors with a healthy environment in which to work and study. Recognizing animals may cause a nuisance, have the potential to be a safety hazard, can be unpredictable, have uncontrollable behavior and may contribute to accidents in the workplace, with the exception of those animals that are specifically exempted by this policy, animals are not allowed on campus.

### **Part 2. Exempted Animals**

The following animals are permitted on DCTC property:

- Service animals, as defined by the [Americans with Disabilities Act \(ADA\)](#), while performing their duties. While emotional support animals or comfort animals are often used as part of a medical treatment plan as therapy animals, they are not considered service animals under the ADA;
- On-duty police dogs;
- Animals used for instructional purposes in academic programs of the College;
- One-time exceptions must be approved by the supervisor and noted in the facilities reservation.

When exceptions are made, animals that are allowed on campus must be contained or on a leash and under the direct and positive control of the individual responsible for the animal. Such individuals will be liable for any accident or damage caused by the animal while on campus.

### **Part 3. Responsibilities**

Due to the risk of injury from animals to persons on campus, owners of non-exempt animals found on campus will be asked to remove them. If an unrestrained animal is sighted on campus, Security should be notified. Security staff will request the owner to remove the animal or will call the local authorities for the animal to be impounded. When appropriate, other disciplinary measures may be invoked.

### **Related Documents:**

- Americans with Disabilities Act: <https://www.ada.gov/>
- Minnesota State Board Policy 1B.1 Equal Opportunity and Nondiscrimination in Employment and Education: <http://www.mnscu.edu/board/policy/1b01.html>
- Minnesota State Board Policy 1B.4 Access and Accommodation for Individuals with Disabilities: <https://www.mnscu.edu/board/policy/1b-04.pdf>

### **Policy History:**

Date of Adoption: 12/18/2017

Last Revision Date: 12/18/2017

Date most recent policy goes into effect: 12/18/2017

**Responsible Administrator:** Chief Human Resources Officer

### **Date and Subject of Revisions:**

September 2016 through December 2017 –Policy reviewed and completely re-written by Policy Oversight Team. Faculty Shared Governance Council notification 11/30/2016 and 1/18/2017. Faculty and staff comment period 8/30/2017 through 9/13/2017. Student senate review 9/6/2017. Strategic

Leadership Council review and approval 11/30/2017 through 12/8/2017. Final Policy Oversight Team approval 12/18/2017.