

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

Operating Policy and Procedure

HSC OP: 76.10, Animals in TTUHSC Buildings and on Grounds

PURPOSE: The purpose of this Health Sciences Center Operating Policy and Procedure (HSC OP) is to define the guidelines governing the presence of non-laboratory animals in TTUHSC buildings and grounds.

REVIEW: This HSC OP will be reviewed by September 15 of every fourth year (E4Y) by the Chief of Police, the Director of Student Disability Services, and the Vice President for Facilities and Safety Services with recommendations or reversions forwarded to the Executive Vice President of Finance and Operations (EVPFO) by September 15.

POLICY/PROCEDURE:

All animals are prohibited from being kept, harbored, or maintained in any TTUHSC building or grounds with the exception of laboratory animals, police K-9's, or qualified service animals utilized for or by persons with disabilities or animals enrolled in the institution's Animal Therapy Program for approved events. Following the Americans with Disabilities Act, "Service animals are defined as dogs individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities. Examples of such work or tasks include guiding people who are blind, alerting people who are deaf, pulling a wheelchair, alerting and protecting a person who is having a seizure, reminding a person with mental illness to take prescribed medications, calming a person 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 person's disability. Dogs whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support do not qualify as service animals under the ADA."

