



Emotional Support Animal Request

The Fashion Institute of Technology (“FIT” or “the college”) is committed to providing members of the FIT community, including students, employees, and guests, with disabilities equal access to programs, services, and physical facilities. Some members of the FIT community and guests with disabilities may require the use of service or emotional support animals while at FIT. The [Disability Accommodations for Service and Emotional Support Animals Policy](#) governs the appropriate use of and protocols associated with service and emotional support animals.

Definitions:

Pet: A pet is an animal kept for ordinary use and companionship. A pet is not considered a service or emotional support animal.

Service Animal: Any dog, or in certain circumstances a miniature horse, that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability (such as a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability).

The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the handler’s disability. Examples of work or tasks include, but are not limited to, assisting individuals who are blind or have low vision with navigation and other tasks, alerting individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing to the presence of people or sounds, pulling a wheelchair, retrieving items such as the handler’s medicine or the telephone, or assisting an individual during a seizure. The crime deterrent effects of an animal’s presence and the provision of emotional support, well-being, comfort, or companionship do not constitute work or tasks for the purposes of this definition.

Emotional Support Animal: An animal specifically designated by a qualified medical provider to be required by a person with a disability for use in an FIT residence. The animal provides emotional support that alleviates one or more identified symptoms or effects of a person’s disability. There must be an identifiable and medically indicated relationship between the individual’s disability and the support the animal provides. Because these animals are not individually trained to perform work or tasks, emotional support animals are not service animals. Unlike a service animal, emotional support animals do not assist with daily living tasks and they are generally restricted to residence halls.

FIT strongly encourages students wishing to request a reasonable accommodation in housing to do so no later than the dates set forth below.

Dates for Submission of Housing Accommodation Requests

First Year and Transfer Students

- Fall semester housing due by June 15
- Spring semester housing due by December 15

Returning Students

- Fall semester housing due by April 15
- Spring semester housing due by December 15
- Summer Session housing due by April 15

Student Responsibilities:

Student must;

1. Submit written statement detailing request for ESA (see below)
2. Complete Release of Medical Information Form and send to your medical provider
3. Have Healthcare Provider submit Medical Information ESA Form
4. Complete [Public Accommodation Form](#)
5. Schedule Intake Appointment via FIT-ABLE Portal to discuss their ESA Request

The written statement should outline the following:

- Type of ESA they are requesting
- Why they are requesting the ESA
- What will the impact be on them if the ESA is not approved
- Plan to meet the care needs of the ESA in the residential hall environment given academic, work and/or extracurricular schedule. Care of the ESA is the student's responsibility if approved.
- Plan to comply with NYC Regulations regarding animal registration if applicable
- Continued plan of care/treatment with the healthcare provider recommending the ESA

By signing this form I, _____ have agreed to and read the [Disability Accommodations for Service and Emotional Support Animals Policy](#) and agree to the policies and procedures contained within.

Student Signature _____ Date _____