

## Emotional Support Animal Guidelines:

The following guidance has been established by SBU to assist in making decisions regarding the presence of emotional support animals in the residence halls for students with disabilities. This guidance pertains to emotional support animals only, and not to service animals and pets. SBU reserves the right to amend this guidance at any time.

### Section I: Emotional Support Animals

An “emotional support animal” is defined as an animal that alleviates one or more identified symptoms or effects of a person’s disability. It allows the student with a disability to receive full benefit or enjoyment of the residence facility. A “pet” is defined as an animal kept for ordinary use and companionship. Residents are not permitted to keep pets in University housing, other than fish.

2. A description of why the animal is necessary for the student to use or enjoy



C. Financial responsibility. Any cost for the actions of the emotional support animal -- including bodily injury, property damage, pest control and/or non-standard cleaning -- must be met by the student. SBU reserves the right to bill the student's account for charges related to emotional support animals.

D. Animal Removal. Removal of the animal from the University may be necessary if there are any violations of student responsibilities, the animal poses a direct threat to health or safety of others, or other situations arise that negatively impact the campus environment. Should this occur, (1) the student will have 48 hours to remove the animal from campus; (2) If the animal is not removed, SBU reserves the right to remove the animal and take it to the nearest humane society location. (3) The student will be reported for violation of the student code of conduct. (4) The student will be expected to fulfill any housing obligations for the remainder of the student's housing contract.

Emotional Support Animal Agreement Form

By my signature below, I verify that 1) I have read, understand, and will abide by the guidelines outlined above, and 2) I agree to provide the additional information below that may be required to complete my request to have an emotional support animal in college housing.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Life Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



