

STANDARD ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

08.01.02.M0.03 **Animals on University Buses and other Transit Vehicles**

Approved October 15, 2024

Next Review Date: October 15, 2029

SAP Statement

Texas A&M University Transportation Services Transit Operations does not permit animals on any of its vehicles, except for service animals and the official Texas A&M University mascot, Reveille.

Official Procedure

1. Service Animals

- 1.1. Service animals and service animals in training are welcome to accompany their handlers on Transit Operations vehicles, including Aggie Spirit buses, paratransit vans and/or other support vehicles.
- 1.2. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) defines a service animal as a dog that has been individually trained to do work or perform task(s) for an individual with a disability. The task(s) performed by the dog must be directly related to the person's disability. Petting, comforting, and other measures designed to provide emotional support do not qualify as working tasks.
- 1.3. Service animals:
 - 1.3.1 must be harnessed, leashed, or tethered, unless the device interferes with the service animal's work. If a disability prevents securing the service animal, the individual must maintain control of the animal through voice, signal, or other effective controls.
 - 1.3.2 are required to be current with Texas required vaccinations.
 - 1.3.3 are not required to wear a vest, ID tag, or specific harness.

2. Emotional Support Animals and Pets

- 2.1 According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), an emotional support animal (ESA) is defined as an animal that provides emotional support, well-being, companionship, or comfort just by being with a person. Because they have not been trained to perform a specific job or task related to a person's disability, they do not qualify as service animals under the ADA.
- 2.2 ESAs and/or pets are not permitted on Aggie Spirit buses, paratransit vans and/or other support vehicles within Transportation Services Transit Operations.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

[University SAP 08.01.02.M0.02, Service Animals, Emotional Support Animals, and Other Animals on Campus](#)

<https://www.ada.gov/topics/service-animals/>

<https://www.ada.gov/resources/service-animals-faqs/>

https://gov.texas.gov/organization/disabilities/assistance_animals

Contact Office

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