

**Concordia University, Nebraska**

**Service Dogs in Training (SDiT) Policy**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) assures people with disabilities who are accompanied by service animals that they will not be excluded from public places or activities, nor charged any additional fees, because they are accompanied by their service dog. However, the ADA does not provide the same protection to those who are training service animals (that is, the ADA assures access for the handler/partner only if the dog is fully trained to give some disability-related service).

Nebraska state law ([Neb. Rev. St. § 20-127](#)) provides those same rights of access for a bona fide trainer of a service animal to be accompanied by such animal in training in all common carriers, airplanes, motor vehicles, railroad trains, motor buses, street cars, boats, any other public conveyances or modes of transportation, hotels, lodging places, places of public accommodation, amusement, or resort, and other places to which the general public is invited, subject only to the conditions and limitations established by law and applicable alike to all persons, without being required to pay an extra charge for the service animal. Such person shall be liable for any damage done to the premises or facilities or to any person by such animal.

Because Nebraska state law does not clarify further its use of the term “in training,” the University has established policy, based on accepted practices suggested by Assistance Dogs International (ADI). A service-dog-in-training is a dog, accompanied by its trainer, that is undergoing individual training to provide specific disability-related work or service for an individual with a disability. This does not include obedience training or socialization of puppies who may later become service animals (generally 15-18 months). Thus, adult dogs are recognized as being “in training” to provide disability-specific assistance only after they have completed an earlier period of socialization (obedience training, being house broken, getting acclimated to public places and everyday activities as pets).

As service animals in training in Nebraska are only given access when they are in the company of a bona fide trainer for the purpose of training. They cannot be in-residence in University housing, nor be present in other areas of campus except those places where all students are welcome to bring pets. Similarly, puppies who are being raised/trained in preparation for participating in formal service animal training are not permitted in University housing or on campus except where pets are allowed.

CUNE reserves the right to amend this Policy as circumstances require.

EFFECTIVE 8.13.25

### **Student Complaint Procedure**

Concordia University believes that all students should be treated with respect and dignity and should receive the best quality of services possible. Additionally, as Christians, we strive to respond to conflict biblically through use of Matthew 18 by encouraging both parties to listen to each other, think about the concerns expressed and be open to resolving the issue. Resources are available for students to submit a concern or complaint regarding the conduct of students, faculty and staff.

[Procedures for filing a complaint can be found here.](#)