

Alaska Center for Ear Nose and Throat Service Animal Policy

Alaska Center for Ear Nose and Throat (ACENT) recognizes the importance of Service Animals to individuals with disabilities and has established the following policy regarding Service Animals (and Service Animals in training) in order to assist individuals with disabilities.

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Service Animals are allowed in all areas of the facility where the public is normally allowed to go. A Service Animal is a dog that has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability. In some cases, a miniature horse may be permitted as a Service Animal. No other animals qualify as Service Animals.

Service Animals are working animals, not pets. Examples of the types of work or tasks performed by a Service Animal include guiding individuals who are blind, alerting individuals who are deaf, pulling a wheelchair, alerting and protecting a person who is having a seizure, calming a person with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) during an anxiety attack, or performing other duties. The work or task a dog has been trained to provide must be directly related to the individual's disability. Animals (including dogs) whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support do not qualify as Service Animals.

Service Animals at ACENT are allowed in the waiting room, restrooms, and may accompany patients to exam rooms. Comfort or emotional support animals are not permitted at ACENT.

Service Animals must be harnessed, leashed, or tethered, unless these devices interfere with the Service Animal's work or the individual's disability prevents using these devices. If you are unable to restrain your animal with a device, you must maintain the control of the animal through voice, signal, or other effective controls.

You may be asked to remove your Service Animal from ACENT under the following circumstances:

- If your Service Animal is out of control and you do not take effective action to control it;
OR
- If your Service Animal is not housebroken.

In the event you are asked to remove your Service Animal from the premises, you may still receive services from ACENT without your Service Animal's presence.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.