
Note: This regulation does not apply to:

- An animal handled by a law enforcement professional for official purposes, such as a drug dog; or
 - An animal used by a person with a disability for assistance. [See DAA and FBA]
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ANIMALS AT SCHOOL

Other than an approved animal used in the instructional program, the District prohibits animals from entering District buildings or attending school-related events.

An animal may be brought onto a school campus for instructional or educational purposes, including promotion of social and emotional learning, only in accordance with this regulation.

PROHIBITED
ANIMALS

Venomous or poisonous animals, dangerous animals, and animals known to be carriers of infectious diseases are strictly prohibited.

REQUIRED
APPROVAL
PROCEDURE

Only animals approved by the principal are allowed on campus.

Procedures for bringing animals to school are as follows:

1. A teacher wanting to bring an animal to school for an instructional purpose will receive prior written permission from the principal on the District's form. [See EMG(EXHIBIT)]
2. The teacher must identify the instructional purpose or other educational objective served by bringing the animal to school.
3. Teachers are responsible for making a reasonable inquiry regarding proper care, feeding, and handling of animals, as well as identifying any potential health or safety risks, before seeking permission to bring an animal onto campus.
4. The teacher will assume primary responsibility for the humane, appropriate treatment of the animal as a condition of approval.
5. Prior to seeking permission from the principal, the teacher must confer with the school nurse regarding any known allergies among students or staff who may come into contact with the animal and any other potential health-related concerns associated with the animal. The nurse will inform the teacher, without unnecessarily revealing confidential information, whether an allergy or other health-related problem exists.
6. Once the principal's approval is obtained, the teacher will inform parents of students likely to come into direct contact with

the animal in writing of the plan to introduce an animal for instructional purposes. The teacher will identify for parents the instructional purpose of the animal and request information from parents about any students who have animal fears or allergies.

7. The teacher will obtain written parental consent before any student is permitted to assist in caring for the animal.

GUIDELINES

The following guidelines will also be observed:

1. Only the teacher or students designated by the teacher will handle an animal.
2. The teacher will provide appropriate instruction to students regarding proper care and handling of approved animals.
3. If an animal is to be kept in the classroom on days when classes are not in session, the teacher will make arrangements for the care and safety of the animal.
4. Animals will not be transported on school buses or other District vehicles.
5. If a staff member or student has been bitten by an animal and the skin has been pierced, the incident will be immediately reported to the school office. The principal will remove the animal immediately and notify appropriate health authorities.
6. Animals will be immunized (when applicable).
7. Animals will be caged or leashed and under the control of a handler at all times.

REMOVAL OF ANIMAL

Any animal will be immediately removed from the classroom or other area if:

1. The animal causes injury to staff or students;
2. The animal causes an allergic reaction to staff or students; or
3. The animal behaves aggressively.

If an animal is removed from the classroom or other area, an incident form will be completed and the animal will be safely isolated under humane conditions until the situation is resolved.