

Policies of the University of North Texas at Dallas	Chapter 15
15.010 Animals in University of North Texas at Dallas Buildings, Leased Facilities, and On Campus Properties	Risk Management

Policy Statement. To promote the comfort, health, and safety of the University of North Texas at Dallas (UNT) community by establishing guidelines on the presence of animals in University facilities and on University property.

Application of Policy. This policy shall apply to all University controlled/owned facilities and to all faculty, staff, students, and visitors. This policy does not apply to:

- use of animals in research,
- service animals,
- emotional support animals,
- animals approved in University residence halls

Definitions.

1. Domestic Animal.—An animal that has been trained or adapted to living in a human environment. Such animals include, but are not limited to, dogs, cats, birds, rabbits, and other types of household pets.
2. Feral Animal.—A once-domesticated animal that has reverted to an untamed state.
3. Wild Animal.—A non-domesticated animal living in its natural habitat.

Procedures and Responsibilities.

In the interest of the comfort, health, and safety of its faculty, staff, students, and visitors, the University prohibits animals in classrooms and facilities, with the exception of residence halls with prior approval, laboratories for academic-related purposes, police K-9s, and service and emotional support animals as allowed by law.

Animal Control. The abandonment of animals on campus grounds is strictly forbidden. The following guidelines apply to these different types of animals:

Wild Animals. The trapping, caging, displaying, and/or use of wild animals on campus for any purpose other than educational instruction or by persons approved by Risk Management Services is prohibited.

Wild animals that are not a risk and do not represent a hazard, cause property damage, or create a public nuisance, and that do not involve human intervention are allowed to inhabit the campus grounds. Prohibited human intervention includes, but is not limited to feeding and providing shelter.

Wild animals that are a potential risk, represent a hazard, cause property damage, create a nuisance, or otherwise pose a potential conflict for humans shall be regulated, controlled, or humanely relocated when possible, in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.

Feral Animals. Feral animals that are not a risk and do not represent a hazard, cause property damage, or create a public nuisance, shall be allowed to inhabit the campus grounds.

Feral animals that are a potential risk, represent a hazard, cause property damage, create a nuisance, or otherwise pose a potential conflict for humans shall be regulated, controlled, or humanely relocated when possible, in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.

Feral animals found on campus should be reported to University Police for reporting to Dallas Animal Services.

Domestic Animals. Domestic animals are not allowed in campus buildings, including residence halls except as permitted under this policy. required by federal law and/or approved by Student Housing and Residence Life Department.

Domestic animals are permitted on campus grounds if the animal is under the direct control of a responsible person, restrained by either a leash that does not exceed 6-feet in length or is in an appropriate animal carrier, crate, cage, or kennel. Domestic animals under voice command are not considered on leash and are not permitted.

Domestic animals brought to campus must be licensed and fully inoculated with evidence of compliance available upon request and be in compliance with applicable City of Dallas ordinances.

Fecal matter deposited by any domestic animal brought to campus must be removed immediately and properly disposed of by the handler.

Domestic animals found tethered, unattended, or abandoned shall be humanely impounded in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.

The University reserves the right to prohibit domestic animals from any campus event.

No animals are allowed in University vehicles, except K-9s with University Police.

The University of North Texas at Dallas complies with federal and state disability laws for service and emotional support animals. For information contact the UNTD Disability Services Office at <https://www.untDallas.edu/disability>.

Animal Exhibit. The University discourages the use of live animal exhibits due to health and safety concerns for both the University community and the animals. However, animal exhibits are permitted when providing an educational and therapeutic experience if proper precautions are taken. Approval may be obtained from the Risk Management Services Department for animals to be allowed in campus buildings for a limited time. A Request to Bring Animals to Campus form must be completed and submitted at least 10 working days prior to the event. Approval by Risk Management must be granted before the event.

Responsibilities. The Risk Management Services Department and UNTD Police are responsible for providing the final determination on the risk, potential hazard, potential for property damage, or potential for public nuisance of any animal on campus grounds; and are responsible for educating members of the campus community by informing them of the key aspects of this policy. The University will send reminders to the community of this policy on a semester basis.

The Risk Management Services Department and UNTD Police shall implement appropriate enforcement action.

The City of Dallas Animal Services Department will be utilized to remove animals from UNTD property when requested to do so by Risk Management Services and/or UNTD Police.

Employees and students who fail to comply or who interfere with the enforcement of this policy may be subject to discipline, as detailed in Policy 5.021 for staff, Policy 6.011 for faculty, and Policy 7.001 for students.

References and Cross-references.

- UNTD Policy 05.021, Disciplinary Procedures for Staff Employees
- UNTD Policy 06.011, Faculty Discipline and Termination Policy
- UNTD Policy 13.017, Care and Use of Animals in Research
- UNTD Policy 7.001 Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct
- UNTD Policy 7.004 Americans with Disabilities Act Policy
- <https://dallascityhall.com/departments/dallas-animal-services/Pages/default.aspx>
- http://dallascounty-tx.elaws.us/code/coor_pti_ch6_arti_sec6-1
- <https://www.animallaw.info/local/tx-dallas-dallas-city-code-volume-i-chapter-7-animals>
- <https://dallascityhall.com/departments/dallas-animal-services/Pages/Pet-Laws.aspx>

Forms and Tools.

- Request to Bring Animals to Campus form, available from Risk Management Services

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Revised: