Policy 12.00: Service Animals

Service dogs will be welcome in and around the campus of Missouri Southern State University provided the dog meets the following guidelines:

1. Vaccination: The dog must be immunized against diseases. Dogs must have had the general maintenance vaccine series, which includes vaccinations against rabies, distemper and parvovirus. All vaccinations must be current in accordance to State of Missouri codes. Dogs must wear a rabies vaccination tag. Proof of vaccination must be made available to a college official upon request.

2. Health: The dog must be in good health. Dogs to be housed in campus housing must have an annual clean bill of health from a licensed veterinarian.

3. Leash: The dog must be on a leash at all times.

4. Under Control of Partner/Handler: The partner(handler) must be in full control of the animal at all times. The care and supervision of the dog is solely the responsibility of its partner(handler).

5. Cleanup Rule: Partner(handlers) should not allow a dog to defecate on any property, public or private (except the partner’s own property) unless the partner(handler) immediately removes the waste. Waste should be properly disposed. Individuals with physical disabilities who cannot physically clean up after their own service animal may not be required to pick up and dispose of feces. However, when possible, please ask a person nearby to assist you.

Removal of a Service Dog

An individual with a disability who is accompanied by a service animal may be asked to remove the animal if:

1. Disruption: The service dog is unruly or disruptive (e.g. barking, running around, and attracting attention to itself). If the improper behavior happens repeatedly, the
partner may be told by the Dean of Students not to bring the dog into any college facility until the partner takes significant documented steps to mitigate the behavior. Mitigation can include muzzling a barking dog or refresher training for both the animal and the partner.

2. Ill Health: Service animals that are ill should not be taken into public areas. A partner with an ill dog may be asked to leave college facilities.

3. Failure to clean up: If the partner fails to clean up as provided herein.