

Thank you for contacting us about having an emotional support animal in University Housing.

Your doctor, therapist, or other licensed mental healthcare provider will need to provide documentation of disability and your need to have an emotional support animal. This documentation is confidential and is not shared with others. We do not refer to the animal as a "pet."

The documentation would:

- **be on the professional's letterhead
- **provide a current diagnostic statement that identifies the disability
- **include the date of initial and most current diagnosis
- **describe the functional limitations or symptoms of the disability
- **indicate the relationship between the disability and the relief the animal provides
- **explain how the animal is necessary for you to use and enjoy your living arrangement.

You will also need to provide a copy of the animal's current health and vaccination records from your veterinarian. It would include all the treatments typical for your type of animal. This will need to be updated each year.

I am attaching the university's policy for having an Emotional Support Animal. Prior to bringing the animal to campus you will need to set an appointment with OAS to review and sign the agreement indicating you will take responsibility for the animal, provide the animal's health and vaccination records, and your disability documentation as described above.

Once the process is completed and at your written request, OAS will notify UCM Housing that you are eligible for having an emotional support animal; we do not include information about the nature of your disability. You will need to make this request each academic year and any time you change your campus housing address.

Many students who qualify for an emotional support animal also choose to document for having academic accommodations. Depression and anxiety are the most frequently documented disabilities on U.S. college campuses but other disabilities are common as well.

We look forward to working with you.