

ODR Emotional Support Animal (ESA) Request Form

Part I – To be completed by the student.

Please be advised that this form will need to be saved before entering information to ensure it will not be blank.

If you find you're unable to fit your responses, please feel free to attach a separate page.

Student Name: _____ UMW ID#: _____

Campus Address (Please provide home address if not currently on campus):

Cell Phone: _____ UMW E-Mail: _____

What was the first year you attended UMW? _____

Indicate if you are a Transfer Student this year, New to UMW, or a Returning Student:

What is your current class standing (e.g., freshman): _____

Other than the provider completing this form, are you connected with any other provider(s) for the indicated diagnos(es)? If so, please include the provider(s) name, title, and scope of practice:

Proposed Emotional Support Animal Name: _____

Type and/or Breed of Animal: _____

Age of Animal: _____

Please describe how the animal will provide support by reducing/mitigating one or more symptoms related to the diagnosed mental health condition(s).

By submitting this request, I am giving my consent for any information relevant to this request to be reviewed by appropriate University staff in evaluation and in any subsequent provision of an emotional support animal as a housing accommodation.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Emotional Support Animal (ESA) Request Form

Student Name: _____

Part II – To be completed by Licensed Mental Healthcare Provider:

The above-named student has indicated that you are the licensed mental healthcare provider who has worked with them and support the need to have an Emotional Support Animal (ESA) in the residence hall in order to alleviate one or more of the identified symptoms or effects of the student's psychological disability. In order to evaluate the request for this accommodation, please answer the questions below. Please know that by providing this information, you are verifying this student's psychological disability and that the presence of the animal addresses that disability.

If you find you're unable to fit your responses, please feel free to attach a separate page.

Information about Emotional Support Animals:

An Emotional Support Animal (ESA) is an assistance animal that provides therapeutic emotional support to an individual with a psychiatric disability. An ESA is not considered a pet, and an ESA is not a service animal.

The American Counseling Association Code of Ethics C.2.a Boundaries of Competence states "Counselors practice only within the boundaries of their competence, based on their education, training, supervised experience, state and national professional credentials, and appropriate professional experience." In addition C.2.b New Specialty Areas of Practice states "Counselors practice in specialty areas new to them only after appropriate education, training, and supervised experience." Please review the American Counseling Association's [Emotional Support Animals Human Animal Interventions in Counseling Interest Network Position Statement](#).

Per your certifying or licensing entity and code of professional ethics and boundaries, please reflect on and answer the following questions. Please feel free to attach additional information as needed.

Is there a clear connection between the disability(ies) and the assistance that this specifically recommended animal will provide? What disability related symptom(s) will be reduced by having the ESA? (Note: Stating that the animal will reduce anxiety or depression is not considered a symptom).

In your opinion, how important is it for the student's well-being that the ESA be in residence on campus? Is there evidence that an ESA has helped this student in the past or currently?

Have you discussed the responsibilities associated with being solely responsible for the care of an ESA and properly caring for an animal while engaged in typical college activities and residing in campus housing? For example, students complete internships, go abroad, go to classes and participate in clubs and organizations that can take them out of their residences for long periods of time. UMW requires that the ESA be under the student's full control, and often means the animal must be crated/caged when students are not in their rooms.

ESAs may potentially exacerbate certain presenting concerns and may interfere with treatment. Do you believe additional ESA-related responsibilities might exacerbate the student's symptoms in any way (e.g., the additional time and cost of caring for an animal while caring for self)? Does your client have a condition which would prevent them from adequately caring for the ESA?

Has the client/patient agreed to attend to and provide for the animals' mental and physical well-being and the animal's health, (including being evaluated by an appropriately licensed and credentialed veterinarian as appropriate and providing documentation to support the animal is appropriately cared for on an annual basis)?

Please provide any additional information you believe can be helpful when providing resources to students through this accommodation process.

Licensed Mental Health Provider Information & Credentials:

Student Name: _____

Healthcare Professional/Licensed Provider Name (Print):

Title: _____

License/Certification #: _____

Address:

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Thank you for taking the time to complete this form. We recognize that having an ESA in the residence hall can be of great benefit for someone with a significant mental health disability. However, the practical limitations of our housing arrangements make it necessary to carefully consider the impact of the request for an ESA on the student, the campus community, and the animal.

If we need additional information, we may contact you using the information provided with the student's written consent. If you have questions regarding this form or the housing accommodation process, please call the UMW Office of Disability Resources at (540) 654-1266 or email odr@umw.edu.

***Form should be provided back to the student in order to allow them to upload the document to their Accommodate Portal.**