
SERVICE ANIMALS IN SCHOOLS

The Bainbridge Island School District Board of Directors acknowledges its responsibility to permit students and/or employees with disabilities to be accompanied by a “service animal” as required by federal laws and Washington State’s law against discrimination. This policy governs the presence of service animals in the schools, on school property, including school buses, and at school activities.

A “service animal” means an animal that is trained for the purpose of assisting or accommodating a disabled person’s sensory, mental or physical disability.

The parent/guardian of a student who believes the student needs to bring a service animal to school or an employee who wishes to bring a service animal to school or work must submit a written request to the building principal or district administrator. The building principal or district administrator, in consultation with the Section 504 coordinator or executive director of instructional support services, as appropriate, will determine whether or not to permit the service animal in school.

Cross References:	Board Policy	2161	Education of Students with Disabilities
		2163	Education of Students with Disabilities under Section 504 of 1973 Rehabilitation Act
		3211	Equal Educational Opportunities: Prohibition Against Discrimination

Legal References:

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Revised Title II Regulations, §35 Service animals
 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
 RCW 49.60.040 Definitions
 RCW 28A.642 Discrimination Prohibition
 WAC 392-145-021(3) General Operating Requirements
 WAC 392-172A-01155(3) Related Services
 WAC 392-172A-01035 Child with a Disability or Student Eligible for Special Education
 WAC 392-190 Equal Educational Opportunity - unlawful discrimination prohibited
 WAC 162-26 Public accommodations, disability discrimination