

**Yale Student Accessibility Services  
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION  
Emotional Support Animal**

Student's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed species/breed of animal: \_\_\_\_\_ Age of animal: \_\_\_\_\_

The above-named student has requested an Emotional Support Animal (ESA) in Yale housing to alleviate one or more of the identified symptoms or effects of their disability and indicated that you are their treatment provider. SAS engages in an interactive process with students to determine reasonable and appropriate accommodations. As part of the interactive process, SAS requests documentation from providers that have a clinical relationship with the student. Letters purchased from the internet for a set price do not provide the information necessary to support an ESA request. We recognize that having an ESA can be a benefit for someone with a significant mental health disorder, however, the practical limitations of campus housing make it necessary to carefully consider the impact on the student, the animal, and the broader Yale community. The student named has signed this form, below, giving written permission to provide information in support of this request. This form is confidential and will not be shared other than as required by law. The submission of this form does not guarantee the student will be approved for an ESA.

**So that we may better evaluate this request, please answer all of the following questions or provide a letter that addresses each of the questions:**

**Information About the Student's Disability**

*The Fair Housing Agreement (FHA) provides for an ESA to stay with its owner in a housing unit (dorm room). The FHA describes specific requirements that must be met before an ESA is granted these protections. The individual must have a psychiatric diagnosis consistent with the DSM-5 and assigned by a licensed mental health professional, with whom they have a relationship. Additionally, the person must qualify as disabled based on the psychological condition and the presence of the animal must ameliorate some of the symptoms of that disability. The ESA must provide a disability-related benefit to the individual. A person with a disability is defined as someone with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities.*

What is the nature of the student's mental health impairment and how does the condition substantially limit the student in a residential college environment?

Does the student require ongoing treatment? Please describe the student's current symptoms and coping mechanisms, needs/regimen pertaining to medication, therapy or other treatments.

Are there crisis episodes or hospitalizations related to the student's condition? If yes, please describe.

When did you first meet with the student regarding this mental health diagnosis?

What is your role in providing care for the student regarding the condition in which the ESA is requested (e.g., primary care, ongoing therapeutic treatment, single session to review need for an ESA, etc.)?

When did you last interact with the student regarding this mental health diagnosis AND how often have you seen them in the past 12 months?

---

### **Information About the Proposed ESA**

*Please note that there are Connecticut state restrictions on the kind of animal that can be approved for Yale housing; it is possible the student may be approved for an ESA but may not be allowed to bring the specific animal named.*

Is the identified animal an integral part of treatment for the student, or is it a pet that you believe will have a beneficial effect for the student while in residence on campus?

What symptoms will be reduced for the student by having an ESA, and how will the symptoms be mitigated by the presence of the ESA?

Is there evidence that the named animal is capable of performing the functions of an ESA within Yale housing (a dorm room for undergraduates, small university apartment for graduate/professional students)? Has the animal helped this student in the past? Have you assessed the interaction of the student with the animal?

### Importance of ESA to Student's Well-Being

In your opinion, how important is it for the student's well-being that an ESA be in residence on campus? What consequences, in terms of disability symptomology, may result if the accommodation is not approved?

Have you discussed the responsibilities associated with properly caring for an animal while engaged in typical college activities and residing in Yale housing? Do you believe those responsibilities might exacerbate the student's symptoms in any way?

---

Name and Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date : \_\_\_\_\_

License information: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please complete the form and return to Yale Student Accessibility Services (SAS) by secure email (pdf) at [sas@yale.edu](mailto:sas@yale.edu) or secure fax at 203.432.8250, Attn. Carolyn Barrett, Sr. Admin. Asst.**

---

**STUDENT (please sign below before providing this form to your provider to complete): By signing below, I consent to allowing my treatment provider to share any information relevant to my need for an ESA as an accommodation with Yale SAS staff for the next 60 days.**

---

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Resources:

Prof Psychol Res Pr. 2020 April; 51(2): 156–162. doi:10.1037/pro0000260.

10-30-2023