



Addendum for Students Requesting ESA Accommodation

Students who are requesting an Emotional Support Animal as an accommodation for a disability should note the following:

- Your documentation should strive to meet the criteria described in the attachment “Documentation Guidelines for Mental Health Disabilities”.
- In your documentation, your healthcare provider must make a link between your functional limitations (how you are impacted by your condition) and the way an emotional support animal will help to alleviate these symptoms.
- The healthcare provider should not simply state: “In my professional opinion, due to student’s condition, he/she needs a comfort/emotional support animal” or only refer to research rather than your specific situation. (See below for example of acceptable language.)
- You should be familiar with the [Disability Access Animal Policy](#) and be able to agree to all conditions in this policy, including adhering to timelines. You should also be aware of Gonzaga’s [Animals on Campus Policy](#).

Example language for your doctor/health care practitioner to include in your documentation:

Student has been diagnosed with **condition X**. **Condition X** causes **him/her** to have the following symptoms: **[A, B, C]**

We have found that having an emotional support animal of **[type]** (such as **cat, dog, rabbit, etc.**) in **Student’s** living area reduces or alleviates those symptoms in the following ways: **[A, B, C]**

Therefore, I am recommending that **Student** be allowed an emotional support **cat/dog/etc.** for **her/his** condition.