

# **New Mexico State Capitol Service Animal Policy**

**“Service animals are defined as dogs that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities.”**

**Service animals may accompany their person in any area where the public is allowed.**

**Under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 emotional support animals are not considered to be service animals and do not have these same protections in public settings.**

**Questions that may be asked before allowing admittance of a service animal:**

- 1. Is the animal required because of a disability?**
- 2. What work or task has the animal been trained to perform?**

**No documentation is required.**

**“A service animal must be under the control of its handler. Under the ADA, service animals must be harnessed, leashed, or tethered, unless the individual’s disability prevents using these devices or these devices interfere with the service animal’s safe, effective performance of tasks. In that case, the individual must maintain control of the animal through voice, signal, or other effective controls.”**

**Please help us ensure an enjoyable visit for you and others by making sure your service animal behaves in accordance with the law. Security and staff reserve the right to have a service animal removed from the State Capitol if it engages in any of the following behaviors:**

**Barking, growling, excessive whining, approaching or jumping on others, or urinating / defecating anywhere on the premises.**

**For more information about service animals please visit:**

**ADA Requirements: Service Animals**

**<https://www.ada.gov/resources/service-animals-2010-requirements/>**