



**South
Metropolitan**

More courses. Part-time. Full-time. On campus.

Student Support Services

E: student.access@smtafe.wa.edu.au

T: 1800 001 001

Assistance Animals at South Metropolitan TAFE

There are many situations where animals provide assistance to people living with a disability. As such, Assistance Animals may be permitted access to public buildings where animals would normally be excluded.

Assistance Animals: An assistance animal is legally defined under commonwealth legislation as “a dog or other animal that:

- a. Is accredited under a State or Territory law to assist a person with disability to alleviate the effects of a disability; or
- b. Is accredited by an animal training organisation prescribed in the regulations; or
- c. Is trained to assist a person with a disability to alleviate the effect of the disability and meets standards of hygiene and behaviour that are appropriate for an animal in a public place”.

Assistance Animals will be allowed on campus at South Metropolitan TAFE if Student Support Services is satisfied that the animal meets the following requirements:

- a. is accredited under a State or Territory law to assist a person with disability to alleviate the effects of a disability; or
- b. is accredited by an animal training organisation prescribed in the regulations;
- c. is trained to assist a person with a disability to alleviate the effect of the disability;
- d. is trained to meet the standards of hygiene and behaviour that are appropriate for an animal in a public place.

The animal must remain under the effective control of the student or another person on behalf of the person with the disability. The student must accept full responsibility for the Assistance Animal, including attending to the animal's needs for the duration of time on campus. The student is also responsible for any damage to property or premises caused by the animal, or injury to people whilst on a SMT campus.

Whilst South Metropolitan TAFE is committed to ensuring that you and your Assistance Animal can attend campus and that you can complete your study with us, the college reserves the right to request that you remove your Assistance Animal should the above conditions not be met.

Considerations:

Please make an appointment with Student Support Services on student.access@smtafe.wa.edu.au to discuss the possibility of bringing an Assistance Animal onto campus.

- The governing *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* does not render it unlawful for a person to request or to require that the assistance animal remain under the control of the person with the disability or another person on behalf of the person with the disability or require the assistance animal to be removed if necessary to protect public health.
- Please contact Student Support Services if you are uncomfortable in the presence of animals or suffer allergic reactions to them, so that alternative arrangements can be made when dealing with people accompanied by assistance animals.

Further Resources:

Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries: [Local Government requirements for having a dog in a public place](#)

Australian Human Rights Commission: [Assistance Animals and the Disability Discrimination Act 1992](#)

WA Legislation: [Dog Act 1976](#)