

PURPOSE:

Pfeiffer University believes pets can provide both companionship and a sense of community for students living on campus, and as such allows for pets to be kept and maintained in a specific residential area of campus while the student is enrolled full-time. The Pet Policy provides the guidelines by which this can be accomplished. By bringing a pet to campus, the student has indicated an understanding of the policy and has agreed to the conditions and penalties therein. Every pet owner is encouraged to consider carefully the advantages and disadvantages of the campus environment for his/her individual pet.

What is a pet?

We define pets in two categories:

- Aquarium Pets (already allowed): Fish (under 6 inches in length), tree frogs, pac man frogs, fire belly toads, leopard geckos, anoles, long-tailed lizards, and hermit crabs. Larger pets (more than six inches in length) are restricted to one per 10 gallon tank. Students are restricted to no more than two 10 gallon tanks or one 20 gallon tank.
- Pets through Application: Dogs and Cats.

Restrictions:

- Due to insurance policy regulations, the following breeds or mix of dog breeds are not allowed on campus: Akita, American Pit Bull/Staffordshire Terrier, Alaskan Husky/Alaskan Malamute, Bullmastiff, Chow, Doberman Pinscher, German Shepherd, Huskies (all breeds), Presa Canario (Canary Dog), Rottweiler, St. Bernard, Wolf Hybrid.
- Dogs can be no larger than 50 pounds.
- Dogs and cats must be spayed or neutered. Pet Owner (student) must provide proof from a veterinarian.
- Cats are to be from fully domesticated litters and cannot contain any percentage of a feral or wild line.
- Owners are not permitted to breed any pets or domestic animals for food or other purposes.
- Only one pet is permitted unless prior approval is given by the Director of Residence Life.
- Pets are restricted in residence halls only where pets are approved. Pets cannot "visit" halls not designated as "pet friendly."
- ***Space is limited to 30 spots and Plyler Hall has been designated as the Pet Friendly Residence Hall.***

Pet Owner Responsibility and Rules of Conduct:

- a. Responsibility of Pet Owner. Pfeiffer University expects pet owners of approved pets to be responsible for:
 - i. The cleanliness of their room;
 - ii. The care of their pet;
 - iii. The impact on their community; and
 - iv. Quick and civil response to complaints.
- b. The Pfeiffer University Pet Council (PUPC) works in conjunction with Residence Life Staff. This Council consists of students, faculty/staff, both pet owners and non-pet owners, who have the task of administering the Pet Policy. The Council also has the power to levy fines and remove problem pets from campus. The Pet Council, with the approval of the Dean of Students or his/her designee, is responsible for budgeting registration money to make improvements to this policy and procedures dictated by it.

- c. Sanctions/Removal: Should pet owners not adhere to expectations, policy or appropriate care of pets, the Residence Life Office and/or PUPC will levy sanctions towards the pet owner. Sanctions can range from a warning to fines to loss of privileges.
- d. Rules of Conduct:
 - i. Regardless of the circumstances, the pet owner is ultimately responsible for the actions of the pet.
 - ii. All student dogs and cats must wear their Pfeiffer University identification tag and a current rabies vaccination tag at all times.
 - iii. All pets must live with their owners.
 - iv. All dogs and cats must be housebroken before arriving on campus.
 - v. Pets are not allowed inside academic and administration buildings or non-pet designated residence halls.
 - vi. All pets must be on a leash at all times and must be under vocal command. Under no circumstances are pets allowed to run around outside unsupervised. Pets are not permitted in residence hall bathrooms.
 - vii. Owners must clean up after their pets.
 - viii. Facilities staff may not enter a room to make repairs or spray for bugs if a pet is inside. Pet owners should call their Resident Assistant/Director to make arrangements in this case.
 - ix. Owner negligence or mistreatment of a pet will not be tolerated. The Pet Council may refer the case to the Judicial System for conduct action.
 - x. Pets attacking other animals or humans will not be tolerated. The Pet Council may refer the case to the Judicial System for conduct action.
 - xi. Failure to remove a pet from campus will result in a \$500 fine and/or conduct action.

Registration, Accountability and Inoculation:

All animals that reside on campus must be registered with the Pet Council. The registration fee will be \$150 per semester (\$300 per year) for all animals. The registration fee may be paid during pet registration or the fee will be charged to the student's account by the Residence Life Office. This fee is charged for each pet.

All pets must be registered prior to residing on campus. All pet registrations are valid for one scholastic year. Pfeiffer University ID tags will be provided to the pet during move in, and it is expected that the pet will wear this ID tag at all times. Certification of all appropriate vaccinations, proof of liability insurance, and a photograph of the pet must be presented when registering. Dogs and cats are required to be treated for fleas and must be spayed or neutered, and certification that this procedure has been performed must be provided when registering. Owners must also present certification from their veterinarian that the dog or cat has been in the family for at least one year.

Discovery of prohibited pets will result in an automatic \$500 fine, even in cases where pets are "just visiting" for a short time; extermination costs may also be charged to residents.

Members of the Pet Council will meet with applicants and pets to evaluate for any concerns. During application, students must present the Pet Council with back up plans for short-term and long-term care of their animal during breaks, summers, long trips, etc.