Emotional Support Animal Provider Form

Your patient/client has requested housing accommodations through the Disability Services Office at Occidental College. In order to provide reasonable accommodations, we require documentation of the specific functional limitations that result from the individual’s disability. General statements about the disability do not help determine appropriate accommodations. Please note that there are some restrictions on the kind of animal that can be approved for the residence hall; it is possible the student may be approved for an ESA, based on the information you provide here, but may not be allowed to bring the specific animal named.

On your office’s official letterhead, please respond in detail to the following questions and include your name, license number, contact information, address, signature, and date. We appreciate your assistance. If you have further questions, please contact the Disability Services Office at accessibility@oxy.edu.

1. What is the current DSM-5 classification that the student is diagnosed with? Does the student require ongoing treatment?

2. When did you first meet with the student regarding their mental health diagnosis, and in what context (that is, was it a face-to-face meeting or a virtual interaction)?

3. When did you last interact with the student regarding this mental health diagnosis?

4. 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 symptomatology, may result if the accommodation is not approved?

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

6. Is the animal named here one that you specifically prescribed as 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?

7. What specific symptoms will be reduced by having an ESA, and how will those symptoms be mitigated by the presence of the ESA?

8. Is there evidence that an ESA has helped this student in the past or currently?