**Training Service Dogs at Georgia College**

**Process and Regulations**

**Updated Jan. 9, 2012**

Section 30-4-2 of the *Official Code of Georgia, Annotated* addresses the training of assistance dogs (see below).  In order for the dogs to be trained on the GC campus, the person training the dog has to be an owner, employee, or agent of an accredited service dog training school and must carry identification to that effect:

§ 30-4-2. *Equal accommodations for blind persons, persons with visual or physical disabilities, and deaf persons; use of guide or service dogs*

(2) Every person engaged in the training of a guide dog or service dog for the purpose of accompanying a person as provided in paragraph (1) of this subsection shall have the same right to be accompanied by such dog being trained as the totally or partially blind person, deaf person, or physically disabled person has under paragraph (1) of this subsection, so long as such trainer is identified as an agent or employee of a school for seeing eye, hearing, service, or guide dogs.

(3) Every person engaged in the raising of a dog for training as a guide dog or service dog for the purpose of accompanying a person as provided in paragraph (1) of this subsection shall have the same right to be accompanied by such dog being raised for training as the totally or partially blind person, deaf person, or physically disabled person has under paragraph (1) of this subsection, so long as:

(A) Such dog is being held on a leash and is under the control of the person raising such dog for an accredited school for seeing eye, hearing, service, or guide dogs;

(B) Such person has on his or her person and available for inspection credentials from the accredited school for which the dog is being raised; and

(C) Such dog is wearing a collar, leash, or other appropriate apparel or device that identifies such dog with the accredited school for which such dog is being raised.

In accordance with Georgia Official Code, the following steps shall be followed by all individuals seeking to train an assistance dog at GC prior to training commencing:

1 – The individual must contact the Dept. of Campus Life (478-445-4027) and provide documentation that they are making the request as an owner, employee, or agent of an accredited service dog training school.

2 – The individual must provide to Campus Life a list of the service dog training rules and regulations of the school.

3 – The individual must sign a form indicating that they will be responsible for any damages caused by the training; that the dog has its required shots, will receive regular proactive flea prevention treatment, and receive appropriate medical care.

4 - The individual must display insurance with the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia as the beneficiary in order to cover the cost of any necessary damage or infestation remediation.

5 – The individual must agree that they will abide by OCGA 30-4-2 (3) A, B, and C:

* The dog will be held on a leash and kept under the control of the person training it for an accredited school for seeing eye, hearing, service, or guide dogs;
* The campus trainer will have on his or her person and available for inspection credentials from the accredited school for which the dog is being raised; and
* The dog will wear a collar, leash, or other appropriate apparel or device that identifies the dog with the accredited school for which the dog is being raised.

The agreement shall be in writing acknowledging this policy and agreeing to its terms and conditions as follows:

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, do hereby seek permission to train a service dog under the Georgia College policy for training service dogs. I agree to abide by all policies, rules and regulations concerning training of service dogs on campus. On behalf of myself and my heirs and assigns, I knowingly and voluntarily assume all risks associated with dog training such as dog bites, scratches, flea infestation, bruising, sprains, strains up to and including death and release the State of Georgia, the Board of Regents of the University of System of Georgia, the GCSU, and its directors, officers, employees, agents, successors, predecessors, subsidiaries, parent, shareholders, employee benefit plans and assigns (the “University”), from all claims and causes of action arising out of or relating in any way to my and all responsibility or liability for personal injury, emotional injury, death or property damage sustained by me during or because of my participation in dog training on any and all facilities, events and so forth of Georgia College. I agree, for myself, my administrators, personal representatives, executors, predecessors, successors, agents, heirs and assigns to release, indemnify (including attorney fees and/or costs) and hold harmless the University from any present or future claim for personal injury, emotional injury, death or property damage as to any other individual and/or property arising directly or indirectly from my participation in dog training at Georgia College, to the fullest extent permitted under law.

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Participant

Upon affirming the satisfactory completion of these steps, the Dept. of Campus Life will notify the applicant that they are approved to train a service dog on the GC campus. Failure to adhere to these rules as well as all other applicable GC rules and regulations can result in suspension and/or removal of permission to train a service dog on the GC campus and/or may result in disciplinary action against the student.