

**UCEN Board/Oasis Charter Public School
Salinas, Ca.**

Policy Adopted: 7/30/24

**Section VI Facilities
Article II Animals at School**

The Board of Directors recognizes that animals can contribute to the school's instructional program by being effective teaching aides to students and by assisting individuals with disabilities to access school programs and resources. In addition, instruction related to the care and treatment of animals teaches students a sense of responsibility and promotes the humane treatment of living creatures.

The Executive Director or designee shall develop rules and procedures to ensure that when animals are brought to school, the health, safety, and welfare of students, staff and the animals are protected.

Under Construction Education Network dba Oasis Public Charter School assumes no liability for the safety of animals allowed on school property.

Use of Animals for Instructional Purposes

Prior to bringing an animal to school, permission must be obtained from the Executive Director or their designee.

All animals brought to school must be in good physical condition and must be appropriately immunized. The staff member shall ensure that the species of animal is appropriate for the instructional purpose and age and maturity of the students.

All animals brought to school shall be adequately fed, effectively controlled, humanely treated, and property housed in cages and containers suitable for the species. The staff member shall ensure that cages and containers are cleaned regularly and that waste materials are removed and disposed of in an appropriate manner.

The staff member shall ensure that students receive instructions regarding the proper handling of and personal hygiene around animals.

Except for service animals, as defined below, all animals are prohibited on school transportation services.

Use of Service Animals by Individuals with Disabilities

For an individual with a disability, service animal means any dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks directly related to the individual's disability, including a physical, sensory,

psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability, and for his/her benefit. Other species of animals, whether wild or domestic, trained or untrained, are not service animals for the purposes of this definition. The provision of emotional support, well-being, comfort, or companionship do not constitute work or tasks for the purposes of this definition. (28 CFR 35.104)

Individuals with disabilities may be accompanied on school premises and on school transportation by service animals, including specially trained guide dogs, signal dogs, or service dogs.

The Executive Director or designee may ask any individual with a disability to remove his/her service animal from school premises or transportation if the animal is out of control and the individual does not take effective action to control it or the animal is not housebroken.

When an individual's service animal is excluded, he/she shall be given an opportunity to participate in the service, program , or activity without having the service animal present.