• Service animals are defined ONLY as a dog or miniature horse.
• Emotional support or therapy dogs are not considered service animals by the ADA and are not allowed in food establishments.
• Food establishments may not allow pets on food establishment property including patios and outdoor seating areas.
• Food establishments may not inquire as to the extent of a person’s disability or make inquiries if it is readily apparent that an animal is trained to work, i.e. a dog observed to be guiding a person who is blind or with low vision, dog pulling a person’s wheelchair, etc.

A food establishment can ask two questions:

The first question must be:
Is the animal required because of a disability?
If the answer is no, the animal must be excluded. If the answer is yes, proceed to the next question.

The second question must be:
What work or task has the animal been trained to perform?
• If the handler refuses to answer, the animal must be excluded.
• If the handler discloses their disability but refuses to disclose what the animal is trained to do, the animal must be excluded.

• If the handler answers that the animal is a therapy or emotional support animal, that it helps with depression or anxiety, etc. this would indicate that the animal is not trained to provide a service and is not a service animal.
• If the handler answers that the animal is trained to guide them, help with balance or mobility, alert them to a condition, pick up or carry items, remind them to take their medication, stabilize them during a seizure, or do some other task that the person is unable to do for themselves, then the animal is a trained service animal and must be allowed.

House Bill 2822, effective January 2019, deems misrepresenting a pet as a service animal in the state of Washington as a civil infraction that carries a fine of up to $500.

Information provided in this document may be found at: www.waservicedog.org