

Emotional Support Animal Documentation—Student Health Service

At Illinois State University Student Health Service (SHS), we frequently receive requests from students seeking documentation for an Assistance Animal, also described as a Comfort Animal, Therapy Animal, and/or Emotional Support Animal. Documentation of the need for an assistance animal typically include a formal disability assessment indicating a disability as defined by federal law. Formal disability assessments for assistance animals are not part of the scope of care provided by SHS and therefore healthcare providers in SHS do not have sufficient information to provide documentation for Assistance Animals.

Additional information regarding University policy about assistance animals is found on the ISU Student Access and Accommodations Website at <https://studentaccess.illinoisstate.edu/policies/assistanceanimals/>.