



Special Olympics Iowa Pet Policy

To ensure the safety, comfort, and enjoyment of all attendees, pets are not permitted at Special Olympics Iowa events.

We recognize and comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which allows for the presence of service animals. Under the ADA, a service animal is defined as a dog (or, in some cases, a miniature horse) that has been individually trained to perform specific tasks or do work for a person with a disability. Service animals are welcome at our events when accompanying an individual with a disability.

Please note the distinction:

Service Animals are allowed, as they are protected under federal law. Emotional Support Animals (ESAs), Therapy Animals, and Comfort Animals are ***not*** considered service animals under the ADA and are not permitted at Special Olympics Iowa events. While these animals may provide valuable emotional support, they do not qualify for public access rights under the ADA.

Special Olympics Iowa staff may ask if an animal is required due to a disability and what task(s) the animal has been trained to perform, as permitted by law. We thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

If you have questions about this policy, please contact the SOIA State Office.