



# The Pet Wing

## Member Contract



The Pet Wing Community is a living unit that is focused on building a family atmosphere among residents. In order to accomplish this goal, residents will be allowed to bring pets to reside in the community. Additionally, members of the community will be encouraged to take responsibility for establishing behavior standards for all community residents through the Pet Wing Review Board and becoming productive members of the campus community.

### As a resident of the Pet Wing Community, I agree to the following terms:

1. I will actively participate in promoting and developing a strong sense of community among the Pet Wing Residents
2. I will participate in social and educational activities for my living area with the help of the Resident Assistants.
3. I will be a role model for others in the building; particularly through participation in the Pet Wing Review Board, which will allow me to take responsibility for my living area. I understand that the Pet Wing is ***INTENSIVE ALOCHOL FREE*** and I will demonstrate responsible behavior by living within the established guidelines of the Student Code of Conduct. I understand that if I am found consuming or to be in possession of alcohol, I may be asked to leave the community by the Residence Hall Director. I realize that living in the Pet Wing is a privilege that brings with it responsibilities that I must meet.
4. I understand that while I am allowed to have a pet on the floor, it must first be cleared through my Residence Hall Director. I understand that if, at any time, my roommate or neighbors become bothered by my pet, I may be asked to remove it from campus at the request of the Review Board or my Residence Hall Director. I will not take my pet to other areas of Mohawk Hall and will keep my pet supervised at all times, especially in the lounge. I agree to provide all required veterinary records for my pet (rabies and distemper shots, feline leukemia, spayed/neutered, etc.) and understand that only animals that have been spayed/neutered (if this procedure is available for my animal) may be permitted to live in the Pet Wing. **A complete list of required records is listed on the back page of the contract.**
5. I will ask other pet-owner's permission before picking up their pet even if the animal is in a common area like the lounge. I will be cognizant of how I treat other's animals and approach strange animals with caution. If I am attacked by an animal (even if there is no severe physical trauma) I will report it to a Resident Assistant or the Residence Hall Director.
6. I understand that harboring animals that do not belong to me is not permitted and may result in disciplinary action. This includes allowing a friend or faculty member's animal to live in my room. Any such requests must receive prior approval from the Residence Hall Director.
7. I understand that a three-strike policy exists in the pet wing, and I may receive a strike for any of the following reasons: not being with my animal while it is outside of my room/locking the animal out of the room, not reporting that an animal is sick or has fleas/parasites, not reporting the death of an animal, use of alcohol, animal neglect or lack of cleanliness, not reporting animal aggression, or at the discretion of my Resident Assistants and Residence Hall Director. I understand that if I reach three strikes, my animal will be sent to its secondary home within 24 hours and I will be asked to leave the pet wing and live elsewhere on campus. Animals that are not taken to the provided secondary address will have to be taken to the local SPCA.
8. I understand that it is my responsibility to report animal sickness, death, and aggression even if the animal is not my own. I understand that if my animal is sick, it can only remain in the pet wing for three days and if it is not better by then it will be sent to its secondary home. I also understand that documentation from a veterinarian is required when my animal is sick to prove it is being treated.
9. I understand that under no circumstances are dogs, snakes, birds or spiders allowed in the Pet Wing Community, not even for a brief visit. I accept that harboring a dog, snake, bird or spider will result in disciplinary action.

10. I understand that the Pet Wing is a desirable lifestyle option for many students that attend SUNY Canton, and that the residential floors that comprise the pet wing community may accommodate no more than 74 residents during any given semester. As such, I understand that any requests for a single room may be denied by my Residence Hall Director based on student demand for the Pet Wing.
11. I understand that room checks will be conducted by the pet wing Resident Assistants in order to ensure animals are being properly cared for and litter boxes are being emptied regularly.
12. I understand that the lounge is a common area that I need to respect. I will not be disruptive or break courtesy/quiet hours in the lounge, and will always pick up my pet's toys from the lounge before leaving for the day.
13. I understand that if I leave campus for an extended period of time (greater than 24 hours) I need to fill out a pet sitting agreement with my Resident Advisor to ensure that my pet is cared for in my absence.
14. I understand that having a pet on campus is a special privilege that may be revoked by the Review Board or the Residence Hall Director. I also understand that all decisions regarding the status of "at risk" animals are final and there is no appeals process for such judgments.

***The following guidelines apply to residents who own cats. As a cat owner in the Pet Wing Community, I agree to the following rules and responsibilities regarding my pet:***

1. I understand that I may only bring one cat to reside with me on the floor. I accept that harboring any additional animals will result in disciplinary action and I may be asked to send all of my pets home.
2. I understand that I must sift my litter box ***at least*** twice every day, preferably once in the morning and once again in the evening. In addition to this, I agree to completely clean/change my litter box ***at least*** once every week. If I choose to use unscented cat litter, I agree to apply an additive (such as baking soda) to alleviate the odor of my pet.
3. I understand that I am responsible for cleaning/changing my own litter box regardless of which animal uses it. In addition, I understand that if my pet defecates in an improper place (any area outside of a litter box, such as a carpet, bed, hallway, etc.), I agree to clean it up immediately and understand that I will be held responsible for any property damage that may have occurred due to my pet. This may include the cost of cleaning supplies to remove any lingering smells or stains. I also understand that all monetary discrepancies regarding reimbursement, should there be a disagreement regarding the issue, shall be resolved by the Residence Hall Director.
4. I understand that all pet-related materials and waste ***must be properly bagged and disposed*** of in the garbage bins located in the main lounge. I accept that improper disposal of litter and pet-related waste in the bathroom stall receptacles or the lounge trash cans may result in disciplinary action.
5. I understand that the Residence Hall Director must approve all requests to adopt animals that will be living on campus prior to their arrival on campus.

**Vaccines pets must have:**

Cats: **Rabies** (depends on the brand of vaccine – initial shot good for one year with boosters being good for 1-3 years depending on the brand)

**Feline Leukemia** (yearly after initial series)

**Distemper Series** (need 2 vaccinations as a kitten and then not set protocol for boosters as they get older. Initial series may be good for many years.)

**De-worm/Fecal Exam** (felines must be de-wormed or have documentation provided for their most recent fecal exam)

**NOTE:** *Kittens must be at least 12 weeks of age in order to receive their initial Feline Leukemia shots. Therefore, kittens younger than 12 weeks old are not permitted to enter the Pet Wing for any duration of time without permission of the Residence Hall Director.*

Ferrets: **Rabies** (first vaccination good for one year and boosters typically good for 3 years, depending on the vaccine used)

**Ferret/Canine Distemper Series** (need 3 vaccinations at a few months old and then yearly boosters)

Hamsters, Mice, Guinea Pigs: **No approved vaccines available**

The most important thing that you can do to keep from getting sick is to wash your hands. By frequently washing your hands, you wash way germs that you have picked up from other people, or from contaminated surfaces, or from animals and animal waste. Hand washing is the #1 defense against infections.

**As a resident of the Pet Wing I agree to the above terms, and understand that a violation of the agreement may result in my dismissal from the Pet Wing.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Community Resident                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Resident Assistant                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Residence Hall Director                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Resident Assistant                      Date

