POLICY STATEMENT
In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, it is the policy of Upstate to allow persons with disabilities to bring their service animals onto campus. Additionally, the use of Emotional Support Animals (ESA) in residential facilities is managed by the Disability Services in conjunction with University Housing, in accordance with the Fair Housing Act.

PROCEDURES
For the purpose of this document the following definitions apply:

- A "service animal" means any dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of a person with a disability, including a physical, sensory, or psychiatric disability. The work or tasks performed by a service animal must be directly related to the person's disability.
- An "emotional support animal" (or comfort animal) is an animal that provides emotional or other support that ameliorates one or more identified symptoms or effects of a person's disability. Unlike service animals, support animals are not required to be trained to perform work or tasks.
- A "pet" is any animal kept for ordinary use and companionship. Service animals and Emotional Support Animals as defined herein, are not considered pets. Students' pets are generally prohibited indoors on the Upstate campus.

Documentation and Requirements: All service animals must be licensed as set forth by the State of New York, Onondaga County and/or the City of Syracuse. The animal must have up-to-date health records and all vaccinations and shots as required by law. The animal must display and wear vaccination and license tags. The owner may be asked to provide written proof of training or that the animal meets basic standards, such as: responding to voice commands and hand and other type of control. All Emotional Support Animals must be approved through the Disability Services as a reasonable accommodation for use in Geneva Tower. Students using this accommodation must also complete an addendum to the University Housing Lease and agree to abide by the regulations outlined therein.

Conflicting Disabilities: Should conflict arise with other students who are allergic to animals in residence halls or classrooms the Disability Coordinator will attempt to mediate a reasonable solution.

Areas That May Pose Health or Safety Concerns: There may be areas on the Upstate Medical University campus that pose hazards to an animal and its' owner (mechanical equipment/room and certain laboratories, etc). There are also areas where the animal may pose health concerns to others, such as certain areas of the University Hospital emergency room, operation room, etc. These areas will be discussed with the student at their intake appointment.

Treatment of Animals: Faculty, staff, and students should be reminded that the animal is here to do a job. The animal should not be treated like a pet and should not be fed, teased, or startled.

Animal Behavior: Owner's should not allow their animals to be disruptive or a nuisance to others by sniffing or jumping on others, barking excessively, growling, wandering about, or engaging in other unruly behavior.

Sanitary Concerns: The institution will designate area(s) where animals can relieve themselves without being disruptive or causing health and safety concerns. Owners will be responsible for being aware of their animals need to relieve themselves.

Emergencies: In the case of emergencies (fire, etc.) Upstate Medical University will make every attempt to ensure proper treatment and protection of the service animal in the event that the animal is protecting their owner, who may be unable to respond because of a medical condition.

RESPONSIBILITIES/REFERENCES
Student policies and their effectiveness are reviewed annually as the Student Handbook is updated. Additional information can be found on the Disability Services website.