Policy on Service Animals at IACP Conferences

IACP is committed to providing a safe environment for conference participants. Please review our below guidelines regarding both service and emotional support animals.

Only service or emotional support animals are permitted at IACP conferences and events. Only dogs are considered to be “service animals”. A “service animal” is a dog that has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities. Service animals are working animals, not pets. Dogs whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support do not qualify as service animals under the ADA.

An “emotional support” animal (also known as a therapy animal) is an animal that provides emotional support alleviating one or more symptoms (or effects) of a person’s disability. **IACP only permits dogs as emotional support animals.**

A service or emotional support animal must be under the control of its handler at all times. Service or emotional support animals must be harnessed, leashed, or tethered, unless the individual’s disability prevents using these devices or these devices interfere with the service or emotional support animal’s safe, effective performance of tasks. In that case, the individual must maintain control of the animal through voice, signal, or other effective controls. The care and supervision of a service or emotional support animal shall be the sole responsibility of the handler. The handler shall be responsible for any repair or cleaning cost incurred by a service or emotional support animal.

If a service or emotional support animal is out of control and the handler does not take effective action to control it or if the service or emotional support animal is not housebroken, IACP may ask the person with a disability to remove the service or emotional support animal from the premises. If there is a legitimate reason to ask that a service or emotional support animal be removed, IACP will offer the person with the disability the opportunity to obtain goods or services without the animal’s presence.

Owners who decide to leave an IACP event because of a violation of this policy will not be eligible for a refund.

Please note, IACP may, at any time, modify the above guidelines. Any such modification will be effective immediately upon public posting. IACP will send out a notification should there be any changes of a material nature to the above policy.