

PROHIBITION OF PETS ON CAMPUS

Effective Date: October 1, 2005

I. Purpose:

A regulation to prohibit pets at Mercer County Community College, so as to protect public health, safety and welfare, and to prescribe penalties for failure to comply.

II. Definitions:

For the purpose of this regulation, the following terms, phrases, words and their derivations shall have the meanings stated herein unless their use in the text of this regulation clearly demonstrates a different meaning. When not inconsistent with the context, words used in the present tense include the future, words used in the plural number include the singular number, and words used in the singular number include the plural number. The word "shall" is always mandatory and not merely directory.

- a. Owner/Keeper – any person who shall possess, maintain, house or harbor any pet or otherwise have custody of any pet, whether or not the owner of such pet.
- b. Person – any individual (including but not limited to a MCCC student; visiting faculty member or other visitor; guest; professional member of the college's academic, administrative, or teaching staff; or other college officer, agent, or employee), corporation, company, partnership, firm, association, or political subdivision of this State whose conduct on college property is subject to regulation by the college.
- c. Pet – a domesticated animal kept for amusement or companionship rather than utility.
- d. College - Mercer County Community College.
- e. College property – Lands and buildings owned or controlled by Mercer County Community College.

III. Prohibited Conduct:

No person shall possess, maintain, house or harbor any pet or otherwise have custody of any pet on college property.

IV. Exemptions to Prohibition:

Any owner or keeper who requires the use of a disability assistance animal shall be exempt from the provisions of this regulation while such animal is being used for that purpose.

V. Violations:

- a. Any college student who is found to be in violation of this regulation shall be subject to official warning, disciplinary probation, suspension, expulsion, or other sanctions in accordance with the MCCC's Student Conduct Code.
- b. Any college officer, staff member, employee, or agent who is found to be in violation of this regulation shall be subject to dismissal, removal, reduction of salary, suspension, demotion, or other disciplinary action in accordance with applicable New Jersey statutes and relevant contracts or agreements.
- c. Any other person who has entered into a contract or agreement with the college to provide equipment, materials, supplies, or services on college property, and who is found to be in violation of this regulation, shall be subject to sanctions in accordance with the contract or agreement.
- d. Any visitor, guest, or other person who is not identified under V.a, V.b, or V.c above, and who is found to be in violation of this regulation, is subject to ejection from college property and, if the person refuses to leave after being asked to leave, to prosecution for criminal trespass under N.J.S.A. 2C:18-3.

Approved:

Board of Trustees
September 22, 2005