



## ARH pet policy- updated August 2015

In order to protect the rights of all residents, insure humane treatment of pets and meet sanitation requirements, the following policy is adopted by ARH for the possession of pets in the residence halls. This pet policy does not include assistance animals. For more information on those, please contact the RLC, the Access Center, and/or the Assistant Director for Residence Life.

### A. Types of pets allowed

1. Each pet must be relatively quiet, low in odor, nonpoisonous, nonvenomous, harmless and disease free.
2. The following pets have been approved for the residence halls:
  - a. Amphibians with an adult size no more than eight inches in length not including a tail, specifically:
    - i. Frogs, Toads, Newts, and Salamanders
  - b. Birds, specifically:
    - i. Budgies, Cockatiels, Finches, and Lorikeets
  - c. Insects, specifically:
    - i. Stick and leaf insects (Families Phasmidae and Phyllidae), Ornate beetles (Order Coleoptera), and Hissing cockroaches
  - d. Mammals, specifically:
    - i. Rodents, specifically:
      1. Hamsters, Gerbils, Rats, Mice, Guinea Pigs, Degus, and Chapman chinchillas
    - ii. Other, specifically:
      1. African Pygmy Hedgehogs
  - e. Marsupials, specifically:
    - i. Small-tailed opossums, and Sugar gliders
  - f. Reptiles, specifically:
    - i. Snakes no more than 48 inches in length; Lizards no more than 24 inches in length, not including a tail; and Turtles and Tortoises with a shell size no more than 12 inches in diameter
  - g. Other, specifically:
    - i. Fish, Hermit and Fiddler Crabs, Snails
3. Any pet not mentioned above is considered prohibited and will not be allowed in the residence halls.
4. Other pets may be added to the approved list at the concurrence of K-State ARH and Housing and Dining Services.

### B. Types of habitats

1. Each resident will be allowed to have a maximum of 2 habitats. Only 2 pets allowed per habitat. The number of fish allowed per habitat will depend on the gallons of the tank.
2. Each habitat must be a cage or aquarium constructed so as to provide a quality and secure environment for the pet(s).
3. Each non-aquatic habitat must surround the pet(s) on all sides.
4. Each habitat will be inspected for adequacy by a staff RLC/ARLC member or designee at the time of approval.
5. The habitat will be constructed so as to preclude the accidental release of the animal.
6. The amount of water designated for all pet habitats may not exceed 30 gallons.

### C. Care of pets

1. Pets will be kept in their habitats or guardian's care at all times.
2. Pets must be provided quality care at all times.
3. All pets must be taken home over campus holidays/breaks (as stated in the check out sheets, fish tanks may remain over the shorter campus/holiday breaks).
4. If pets are not taken care of then the RLC/ARLC may consider removal of the pet from the hall.

### D. Common areas

1. First floor and basement common areas in each building must remain free of pets.
2. Unless otherwise stated, resident pets are considered prohibited in lobbies and hallways, and restrooms in all halls.
3. Pets may be transported through these areas but may not loiter.
4. Exceptions may be made by the staff and residents of each floor through a petition signed by a simple majority of floor residents with the agreement of the RLC/ARLC.
5. Severe resident concerns, validated by the RLC/ARLC, will supersede any exception made.
6. Pets that require live food such as mice, small rodents, or mammals may not be publically fed for entertainment, nor may feedings be advertised.

**E. Pet approval**

1. A pet may be brought to the Residence Halls on Move-in Day if the pet approval form has been filled out and approved by the RLC/ARLC and the roommate. This form must have a signed date prior to Move-in Day.
2. If the above requirement has not been met then there will be a one week waiting period from the date of the signed approval forms by the RLC/ARLC and the roommate before the pet may enter the Residence Halls.
3. Each habitat will require a separate agreement.
4. If a resident wishes to change the size of a habitat for a previously approved pet, a new agreement will be required.
5. If a resident wishes to add a pet to the current habitat, a new pet agreement may be required at the discretion of the RLC/ARLC or designee.
6. Each agreement must be signed by all of a resident's roommates and a staff RLC/ARLC member.
7. Upon approval of the pet agreement the resident will receive a registration card outlining the terms of the agreement to be kept available in his/her room at all times to be shown to staff upon request.
8. Upon approval each habitat will be required to display an Approved Pet Habitat Tag with the type of animal, date of approval, number of pets in the habitat, school year approved for, and signature of the RLC/ARLC, above or under the light switch at the entrance of the designated pet room.
9. If a pet becomes a problem with any resident, it is his/her responsibility to bring such problems to the attention of a RA staff member or the RLC/ARLC.
10. If a student moves to a different hall during the school year, the student needs to complete another pet approval form and receive a new Approved Pet Habitat Tag from the new hall.

**F. Breeding**

1. There will be no breeding of animals of any kind allowed in the Residence Halls.
2. If there are any questions please direct them to the Association of Residence Halls and the RLC/ARLC.

**G. Violations**

1. Violations of this policy will be referred to the RLC/ARLC
2. Any resident concerns brought forth that cannot be resolved between residents will be referred to Judicial Board.
3. If immediate action is deemed necessary, the RLC/ARLC may take appropriate action.
4. Any damage by the pet(s) will be paid for by the owner. Owner of the pet will be charged if the pet escapes their habitat requiring assistance in finding, and any damages to property.
5. Responsibility relies on the pet owner, to follow these guidelines. If the guidelines are not met, the RLC/ARLC has the right to immediately remove the pet.

**H. Review**

1. This policy may be reviewed by committee in the spring semester of odd numbered years.

Before a student can bring a pet into the residence hall, they will have written permission of their roommate(s) and the Residence Life Coordinator (RLC). Each pet container will require a separate agreement. If the pet becomes a problem with a resident's roommate or those in the surrounding communities, the RLC may remove the pet at any time.

I have read, understand and agree to the preceding guidelines: Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of pet: \_\_\_\_\_ # of pets: \_\_\_\_\_ Room #: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name Requesting Pet (Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student signature requesting pet

\_\_\_\_\_  
Roommate's Name (Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Roommate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Roommate's Name (Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Roommate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Roommate's Name (Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Roommate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Residence Life Coordinator Approval