

University of Pittsburgh-Greensburg

Pet Policy

- Students are permitted to have a maximum of 1 pet. The following small caged and aquarium animals are the only animals permitted in the residence halls: hamsters, gerbils, chinchillas, and guinea pigs. Fish are also permitted.
- Service and/or emotional support animals are not addressed in this policy. Those animals must be approved through [Disability Resources](#).
- Permitted animals must be able to live humanely in a cage no larger than 2'x2'x2' or no larger than a 10-gallon tank (aquarium or terrarium). Aquarium and terrarium size is by total volume, not individual dimension measurement, and does not include any tunnels or add-on accessories. Students are only permitted one tank or cage.
- Each pet must be registered with and approved by the Office of Housing & Residence Life **PRIOR TO BEING BROUGHT TO CAMPUS**. This includes any animals brought in throughout the school year.
- Before approval will be granted, all roommates must agree in writing to any pets.
- Pets and associated supplies must always be kept in the owner's room and cannot be taken into another student's room or any common area spaces (except for transporting in and out of the building). Common area spaces include hallways, lounges, game rooms, or any other space outside of the student's assigned room. Additionally, pets may not be taken into campus administrative buildings or classroom.
- If the animal needs to be transported out of the room/hall, it must be transported in a visible, closed, solid-bottom carrier at all times (i.e. no transport on one's person, in hamster balls, etc.).
- Students must properly maintain the hygiene and health of their pets.
- All pets must be crated, caged, or in a terrarium/aquarium when left unattended in room.
- Pet owners must take reasonable precautions to prevent the animal from escaping its habitat or supervised care. Pet owners must notify Residence Life immediately upon realizing a pet has escaped its habitat. Pet owners are responsible for any action the University must take to locate/capture a missing animal (whether the student approved

of the action) as well as any damage their animal causes during its escape.

- When cleaning a pet's cage, aquarium, or terrarium, proper care must be taken to ensure that no bedding, excrement, litter, gravel, sand or cedar chips are dumped down any drains. All solid debris must be double-bagged and placed into an outside dumpster. Once solid debris is removed, the container should be washed in a designated slop/mop sink. Recurring clogged sinks as a result of animal debris may lead to suspension of pet privileges for the owner, building and/or campus.
- All fabrics or materials laundered in the university's laundry machines must be free of animal debris. Recurring repairs as a result of animal debris may result in a suspension of pet privileges for the owner, building and/or campus.
- Pet owners are responsible for all damage caused to university facilities and to other resident's property by their pets.
- If at any time a pet owner can no longer care for their pet, they must find a humane home for it.
- Pet owners are expected to take reasonable precautions to prevent their animals from breeding while residing on campus. Offspring of animals still fall within the total pet restrictions. If the pet's offspring would put the owner over the policy limit of animals allowed, they must notify a member of Residence Life immediately and move the animal family off campus until the offspring can be placed in humane homes.
- If a pet dies while in the residence halls, students must appropriately dispose of the animal. To dispose of the animal on campus, students must double-bag and take the animal to an outside dumpster. Students may not bury pets on campus. If students prefer to take the animal home to bury it, they must remove the animal within 24 hours.
- The 2021-2022 academic year will be a pilot year for this pet policy at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg. The University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg reserves the right to revise or remove the policy, if deemed necessary, at any point during the 2021-2022 academic year.