

# Service Animals In the Studio



## Can I bring my service animal to Skin City Tattoo and Body Piercing?

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Skin City welcomes the use of service animals by any person with a disability. We do not allow service animals in areas of the Studio where they would cause a major change to Studio operations or a threat to the safety of others or the Studio.

- Disability, as defined in the ADA, is any physical or mental impairment that limits 1 or more major life activities, such as breathing, hearing or caring for oneself.
- Service animal, as defined in the ADA, is any dog that is trained to do work or tasks for the person with a disability. Disabilities can include physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual or other mental disabilities. A service animal is not a pet because it is specially trained to help a person overcome the limitations caused by the disability.

## Can I bring my comfort or emotional support animal to the hospital?

- No. According to the ADA, comfort or emotional support animals are not considered service animals.
- Service animals receive special training to do specific tasks that a person may not be able to do because of their disability.
- The ADA does not consider the sense of companionship, comfort or security that animals may provide a “trained task.”

## Do I have to provide identification or information about my service animal?

No. Skin City tattoo and Body Piercing does not require information about a person’s disability or proof of the service animal’s training.

- If a staff member is not sure that an animal is a service animal, you may be asked:
- Is the animal a service animal because of disability
- What tasks/services have the animal been trained to perform

A staff member should not ask a person about his or her disability or ask the dog to demonstrate its ability to work or task.

## What are my responsibilities?

- You are responsible for the care and behavior of your service animal at all times. If you have to go to an area that is off-limits to service animals, you will need to make other plans for the animal during this time. Staff may not take care of a service animal at any time.
- Staff and other customers (other than the owner) may not pet or play with your service animal.
- Service animals should not be exposed to any patient’s open area of skin (for example: cuts, wounds, areas around Tattoo and Piercing etc.) Service animals are not allowed on your lap during the procedure.
- Everyone, including the dog’s owner, should wash their hands with a waterless alcohol product (like Purell) or soap and water after touching the service animal, its equipment or any other item the dog has touched.
- You should be able to control your service animal at all times. You may be asked to remove the dog from the studio if it is out of control (for example: uncontrolled barking, not able to follow your instructions to keep out of controlled area).



- You should not bring your service animal into the studio if the dog is sick, has diarrhea (loose poop), fleas, ticks or sores. If your dog shows any signs of poor health or is not house-trained, you may be asked to remove the dog from the hospital.
- You should report any incidents, such as bites or scratches, to a staff member. If your service animal bites, you will be asked to remove the dog from the studio right away.

### Where is my service animal allowed in the hospital?

You may bring the service animal to any area of the Studio where the general public is allowed. Service animals are not allowed in:

- Areas where the studio must take special steps to reduce the risk of infection, including:
  - Clean Room
  - Storage Room
  - Operatory area of Tattoo or Piercing
  - **In your lap during the procedure**

### Where can my service animal go to the bathroom?

The area just in front of the shop. There is a raised flower bed. (see Figure 1)

- You must bring materials (like poop bags) to clean up after your dog. A garbage can is in the parking lot by the shed. (see Figure 2)