



Please be aware that Mid South Therapy Dogs & Friends (MSTD) is not a source for service/assistance animals or emotional support animals.

MSTD is a volunteer-based nonprofit organization that provides animal-assisted interactions and therapies to facilities throughout the Mid South.

We cannot help you to acquire or train a service animal, but we can direct you to the following sources: For assistance in finding a service animal trainer near you, please click on this link:

<https://www.assistedogsinternational.org/>

For questions about laws and regulations for service animals particular to your state please click this link:

<https://www.animallaw.info/topic/table-state-assistance-animal-laws>.

HOW THERAPY ANIMALS DIFFER FROM OTHER SUPPORT ANIMALS

Comparative Descriptions	Therapy Animal	Service/Assistance Animal	Emotional Support Animal
Provides therapeutic comfort to many people	YES	NO	NO
Primary job is to emotionally support owner through companionship	NO	NO	YES
Trained to assist an individual for a specific health need	NO	YES	NO
Must behave in and tolerate many environments	YES	YES	NO
Rights of access to public places such as restaurants and stores	NO	YES	NO
Housing rights even if "No Pets" Policy	NO	YES	YES
Travel rights in the cabin of an airplane with owner	NO	YES	YES
Okay to approach and pet in public	YES	NO	NO

PLEASE NOTE: Mid South Therapy Dogs & Friends works exclusively with therapy animals. We do not accept service/assistance animals or emotional support animals as candidates for volunteering with MSTD for animal-assisted interactions.

www.MidSouthTherapyDogs.org