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Response 1

I agree to some extent that emotional support animals should not be allowed in colleges since some students may fail to care for them due to their school schedules properly. However, emotional support animals can be important because today's students are stressed due to exams while others are depressed. In the case the school administration approves emotional support animals within the housing areas, they need to set strict guidelines that the students can follow. An emotional support animal provides therapeutic companionship to individuals with anxiety or mental issues. Therefore, for the school to approve one's application of having an emotional support animal on campus, they need to prove the existence of their health condition as per the Fair Housing Act regulations. Second, allowing emotional support animals within the housing area can be hectic because of the residency halls' construction styles and layouts (Association for Student Conduct Administration, 2019). This is because the residency areas are not built to accommodate emotional support animals. This is why it is important for learners who need companionship to ensure they have the animal's recommended size to minimize any hallways interference. Third, emotional support animals need to be cared for by only the handler. Therefore, if the student can care for the animal, they can be allowed in their residency area.

Extending emotional support, animals in classrooms may present some challenges. The first challenge is that other students may be allergic to animal fur, which might affect their health. Second, having an emotional support animal in the classroom can destruct the students since those who love animals would want to pet them. In contrast, those who are afraid of them, their fear and anxiety towards animals may increase.

Response 2

I agree that having an emotional support animal in a classroom can be beneficial to the student, especially those prone to anxiety when faced with stressful situations like sitting for exams. Today, as mentioned earlier, many students are stressed, and under a lot of pressure to perform well in school for a better future (Erdman & McQuiston 2018). Having an emotional support animal during this time will benefit their health because they will feel relaxed and calm during a difficult situation. Second, some students may need their emotional support animal in class if they are inclined to get frustrated if they do not understand what they are studying. The emotional support animal can sense that its handler is overwhelmed with emotions and will try to soothe them. This allows the student to start concentrating better in class since they are not feeling distressed anymore.

I agree that the challenge that may arise from allowing emotional support animals in the classroom is coming up with a policy that may accommodate this phenomenon. School administrators may find it challenging to understand which laws and regulations they need to develop to be beneficial to every student (Von Bergen, 2015). This is because students who rely on emotional support animals need to have their animals everywhere every time. The school also has to consider several factors, such as how the students will cope with an animal in the classroom and the professors' response to the situation, and whether they support it or not since they will be interacting with the students daily. They also have to consider students' opinions who might be affected negatively by an animal's presence in the class. In addition, classroom buildings are not fit to accommodate animals, just like resident halls. This will be challenging for the school administration since they have to figure out how to incorporate the animals in class.

References

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