



NCSU Free Moms Dog Safety Policy

Revised: Spring 2026

Welcome

By bringing your dog to campus as part of the NCSU Free Moms on-campus experience, you agree to comply with this Dog Safety Policy in its entirety.

NCSU Free Moms offers pet visits during the on-campus experience. Volunteers who share their dogs are onboarded through a process that includes a one-on-one pet safety conversation prior to their first visit. The Dog Coordinator reviews all safety protocols during a phone call with prospective volunteers.

Our Mission

Dog Owners are not only there to share their dogs, but also to create meaningful connections. Bring your smiles, be ready to offer a hug or a listening ear, and remember: We are here for the students first

Dog Owner Responsibilities

Dog Owners agree to the following:

Health & Identification

- Dogs must be up to date on all required North Carolina vaccinations
- Owners must carry a digital or physical copy of vaccination records
- Dogs must be on flea prevention
- Dogs must wear a collar with an ID tag at all times

Safety & Behavior

- Dog Owners are solely responsible and liable for their dog's behavior
- Dogs must be socialized and comfortable around:
 - Crowds and strangers
 - Other dogs
 - Loud environmental noises (e.g., trains near Wolf Plaza)
 - Bicycles and skateboards
- Dogs must be clean and well-groomed
- Owners must prevent dogs from jumping on or behaving aggressively toward students

Handling Requirements

- Dogs must remain on a leash at all times
- Owners must hold the leash at all times
- Dogs may not be tied to objects or restrained by stepping on the leash

Spacing Rules

- Maintain at least 5 feet between dogs
- Maintain at least 15 feet from food tables and student eating areas

Participation Limits

- Only one dog per owner per visit

Exception:

Two dogs may be allowed if:

- Each dog weighs under 20 lbs
- Dogs are pre-approved
- Space allows
- At least one is a certified therapy dog
- The owner can safely manage both dogs

Breed Limits

Beginning in Fall 2026, NCSU Free Moms will no longer allow certain breeds to participate on the Dog Team. This includes pit bulls, pit bull mixes, German Shepherds, Terriers, and Rottweilers. Dogs with any mix of these breeds are also not permitted to participate.

While we recognize that many of these dogs are well-trained and wonderful companions, our priority is the safety of all students, volunteers, and dogs involved in our program. For that reason, we must err on the side of caution when making these decisions.

We appreciate your understanding and support in helping us maintain a safe and welcoming environment for everyone.

Top High-Risk Breeds for Biting (per OSU study findings):

- Pit Bulls: Highest frequency and severity of bites.
- Mixed Breeds: High frequency and severity.
- German Shepherds: High frequency and severity.
- Terriers.
- Rottweilers.

Additional Policies

- Foster dogs are not permitted (no exceptions)
 - Owners must carry hand sanitizer at all times
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Recommended (Not Required) Items

- Harness
 - Water and bowl
 - Treats
 - Lint brush
 - Beach towel or picnic blanket
 - Wagon or chair
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Thank You

Thank you for your willingness to share your dog and your heart.

We look forward to seeing you on campus!

Cecilia Dean

Free Mom – Dog Coordinator

Policy Updates

This Dog Safety Policy may be updated at any time at the discretion of NCSU Free Moms leadership to ensure safety and program success.

Please review this policy at the beginning of each semester to remain in compliance with the most current version.