

Acceptable Equipment for the Evaluation

The following is the list of acceptable equipment for the Therapy Animal Program:

- Harnesses: front clip, back clip, step in, vest, or slip harness. A harness may have multiple connection points, but only one connection point is acceptable to be used for the evaluation or while visiting. The harness should fit the animal properly and the animal should feel comfortable wearing it.
- Buckle, snap, or quick-release collars in leather, fabric, or breathable synthetic materials.
- Limited-slip collars (such as martingales), provided that they don't include metal links.
- Head halters.
- Leashes or leads, no more than six feet in length, made of leather, fabric, or synthetic material, with only one connection point.
- Metal hardware, such as buckles, slip rings, and D-rings, are acceptable as part of any of the above equipment.
- Baskets that can be easily cleaned and sanitized are acceptable for cats, rabbits, guinea pigs, and rats.

The following are examples of equipment that's considered inappropriate for both evaluations and visits:

- Special training collars, such as prong, electric, or spray collars.
- Metal collars and harnesses, including martingales that have metal links.
- Full-slip collars of any type.
- Leashes that have any amount of metal chain.
- Retractable leashes.
- Leashes that are longer than six feet.
- Hands-free leashes, such as those secured around the handler's waist or shoulder.
- Pouches, purses, or bags designed to carry an animal.
- Novelty items, such as (but not limited to) decorative bead leashes, vests designed to look like clothing, ties, or headbands.