



## **PUBLIC ACCESS FACTS**

Section 9(2)(c) of the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Cth)* allows an Assistance Animal to accompany their handler in most public places in ALL Australian states and territories.

It is unlawful to deny entry in most circumstances **UNLESS** you have a reasonable suspicion that::

- The animal does not meet the standards of **HYGIENE** and **BEHAVIOUR** appropriate for a public space.
- The animal has an **INFECTIOUS DISEASE** and that discrimination is reasonably necessary to protect public health or the health of other animals **AND** that discrimination is reasonably necessary to protect public health or the health of other animals.



## **PUBLIC ACCESS FACTS CONT.**

**You may only ask the handler to provide the following evidence:**

- **The animal is an assistance animal.**
- **The animal meets standards of hygiene and behaviour that are appropriate for a public space.**

**There is NO SINGLE FORM of acceptable evidence under Australian law. Examples MAY include:**

- **Medallion on the animal's collar.**
- **State government issued ID card or patch.**
- **Training organisation issued ID card or jacket.**
- **Letter from a veterinarian, trainer, allied health or medical professional.**



## **PUBLIC ACCESS FACTS CONT.**

If the handler refuses to or cannot provide evidence upon request, then then you **MAY CONSIDER** denying them entry.

In this circumstance it is **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED** that you contact the Human Rights Commission **BEFORE** acting.

**Australian Human Rights Commission:**

**T: 1300 656 419 (option 2)**

**W: [humanrights.com.au](http://humanrights.com.au)**

**DISCLAIMER:** The information contained in this document and the card upon which the QR code is located should not be relied upon as legal advice. It is essential to consult with the Australian Human Rights Commission and, if applicable, your own lawyer on specific legal matters related to human rights in Australia.