

Furry Friends

# Certified Dog Visitation Program



## Volunteer Services

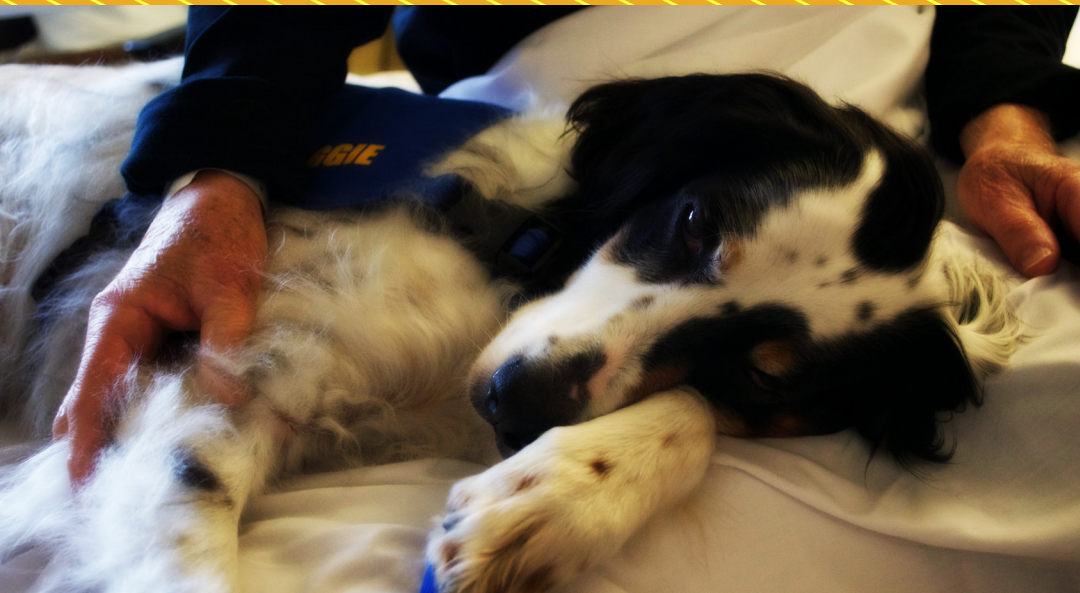
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uihc.org  
Email: [volunteerservices@uiowa.edu](mailto:volunteerservices@uiowa.edu)



The hospital reserves the right to deny a visit if it is not suitable for the patient.

[uihc.org](http://uihc.org)   





### Would you enjoy a visit from a specially trained dog?

At UI Hospitals and Clinics, a certified dog may visit patients. These dogs are tested for good health and temperament.

### What should I do to have a certified dog visit?

- Ask your nurse if you can have a dog visit.
- Sometimes the health of a patient may not allow a dog visit.
- You will need to complete a consent form if the nurse agrees to the dog visits.

### How will I know when the dog will visit?

We will work with you to set up a visit. It may take up to one week to schedule. The dog and handler are volunteers. There may be times a dog and handler team are not available.

### What happens on the day of the dog visit?

The dog's handler will bring the dog to your room. The handler will stay with the dog the whole time. The handler is the person who has been certified to visit with this dog. Most of the time, this will be the dog's owner.

- You will need to wash your hands before and after the visit.
- A sheet will be put on your bed to catch the dog hair.
- Tell the handler if you want to pet the dog, or if you want the dog to lie next to you.
- The handler cannot take off the leash or leave the dog.
- Do not give the dog any food. The handler will bring treats if appropriate.
- The visit will need to stop anytime the handler thinks the dog needs a break.

