Animal-Assisted Services (AAS)

Animal-Assisted Treatment (AATx)

Animal-Assisted Education (AAE)

Animal-Assisted Support Programs (AASP)

Note: In all types of AAS, at all times, animal welfare and ethical practice must be maintained Animal is prepared, evaluated, trained, and/or registered

Treatment Focus

Occupational Therapy

Psychotherapy

Physical/ Physiotherapy

Psychology

Speech Therapy

Counseling

Clinical Nursing

Social Work

Note: Clinicians must operate within their scope of practice and country's regulations

Distinction:

- Treatment goals are defined, outcomes are measured & documented
- Provider is a licensed/degreed/ credentialed health or human service provider who might handle the animal or work with a handler

Academic Focus

Distinction:

- Academic goals are defined, outcomes are measured & documented
- Provider is a licensed/degreed educator who might handle the animal or work with a handler

Psycho/Socio-emotional learning focus

Animal-Assisted Psychoeducation

Humane Education

Vocational/Personal/ Organizational development

Therapeutic Riding

Prison-Based
Training Programs

Equine-Assisted/ Facilitated Learning

Distinction:

- Psychoeducational & personal development goals are defined, outcomes are measured & documented
- Provider is a licensed/ degreed educator, mental health provider or a paraprofessional knowledgeable about socio-emotional learning and the facilitation of AAE and animal behavior who might handle the animal or work with a handler

Support Focus: Formerly known as animal assisted activities

Visitation Programs

(eg airport, medical office, hospital, clergy, community visits, dogs on campus, crisis support)

Animal-Assisted Crisis Intervention, Emotional First-Aid Support Focus

Horsemanship services for support needs (rehab, improving physical functioning, eg vaulting)

Reading programs
(support focus)
Without a licensed/degreed
provider

Community Social Work (Support Focus);
Coaching (social skills)

Riding for the Disabled (UK/Australia)
Support focus

Courthouse Dogs (Support Focus)

Distinction:

- Benefits are identified but not defined, outcomes are not measured or documented
- Provider is a volunteer or paraprofessional trained in AASP who is typically also the handler