
ACCOMMODATIONS AND OTHER SUPPORTS

DEFINING REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS

A reasonable accommodation is a modification or adjustment to a course, program, service, job, activity or facility that ensures educational equity for qualified students with disabilities. Educational equity means an opportunity to attain the same level of performance or to enjoy benefits and privileges equal to those available to students without a disability. When necessary, DRC staff will consult with faculty regarding essential standards in order to determine reasonable accommodations by examining the following:

- Barriers resulting from the interaction between individuals with disabilities and the campus environment, for example, access to courses, programs, services, jobs, activities or facilities without accommodations
- Needed modifications and/or auxiliary aids and/or services
- Whether the essential elements of the courses, programs, services, jobs, activities or facilities would be compromised by the proposed accommodations

REQUESTING COURSE ACCOMMODATIONS AND AUXILIARY AIDS

Accommodations cannot be arranged unless a student initiates a request for accommodation through the DRC, provides the necessary documentation and schedules an intake appointment at the DRC. Planning for accommodations can begin only after these steps have been completed and there has been adequate time to evaluate the request and supporting documentation. Accommodations cannot be retroactive. The procedures listed below are for students who qualify for course accommodations and auxiliary aids and services.

- At the start of each semester, students schedule an appointment to meet with a DRC Specialist to prepare *Course Accommodation Forms* addressed to each of their instructors. These forms certify that students are eligible for the accommodations listed.
- Students are responsible for delivering *Course Accommodation Forms* to their instructors and discussing accommodation needs with each instructor (See Section - Tips When Communicating with Faculty).
- An accommodation, such as requests for alternate formats, assistive technology in the classroom or sign-language interpreters, usually requires sufficient lead-time to arrange. Students who anticipate requiring these kinds of accommodations should make an appointment with a DRC Specialist immediately after they register for courses.

- If approved accommodations are not implemented in an effective or timely way, contact the DRC immediately. DRC staff will work with University personnel and students to resolve any disagreements regarding these accommodations.
- Students who believe they have been discriminated against on the basis of their disability may file a grievance with the University's ADA Compliance Officer. (See Section - Complaint and Grievance Procedure)
- The ADA does not require the University to provide personal assistants, individual tutors or equipment and assistive technology that have been individually prescribed by outside agencies or medical or rehabilitation professionals. Whenever possible, the DRC will refer students to agencies that may provide resources to meet these needs.

Examples of Accommodations and Auxiliary Aids and Services are:

- Extended time, scribes and/or readers for exams and/or quizzes
- Reduced-distraction setting for exams and/or quizzes
- Assistive technology in classrooms and the DRC test-taking facility
- Permission to record a lecture
- Accessible desks and adjustable tables in the classroom
- Large-print materials
- Classroom amplification
- Note-taking support
- Sign-language interpreters
- Captioned films and videos
- Taped or scanned reading material
- Accessible transportation for university sponsored events – on and off-campus

PROVISIONAL ACCOMMODATIONS AND SERVICES

Students whose documentation of a disability does not fully meet DRC documentation guidelines may be considered eligible for provisional accommodations and services through the DRC for no more than one semester. They must agree to submit complete documentation during the semester for which they are currently registered.