

Policies for Accommodating Students with Disabilities

Midwestern University is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. Toward this end, Midwestern University policies and procedures ensure that students with a disability will not, on the basis of that disability, be denied full and equal access to academic and co-curricular programs or activities or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under programs offered by the University.

To ensure full implementation, three important areas have to be considered:

1. The right of the University to set and maintain standards for admitting and evaluating the progress of students.
2. The right of the student with a disability to be included on the basis of criteria that does not unfairly discriminate because of the disability.
3. The right of the faculty to establish and monitor standards of academic performance and to assess content domains.

Rights

- To establish technical standards for admission of students into MWU programs.
- Maintain University's academic standards.
 - Request current documentation from a student completed by an appropriate professional source to verify the need for reasonable accommodations, academic adjustments, and/or auxiliary aids.
 - Discuss a student's need for reasonable accommodations, academic adjustments, and/or auxiliary aids with the professional source of his/her documentation with the student's signed consent authorizing such discussion.
 - Select among equally effective and appropriate accommodations, adjustments, and/or auxiliary aids in consultation with students with disabilities.
 - Deny a request for accommodations, academic adjustments, and/or auxiliary aids if the documentation fails to verify the need for the requested services, or the documentation is not provided in a timely manner.
 - Refuse to provide an accommodation, adjustment, and/or auxiliary aids that is/are inappropriate or unreasonable including any that:
 - Pose a direct threat to the health and safety of others;
 - Constitute a substantial change or alteration to an essential element of a course or program; or,
 - Pose undue financial or administrative burden on the University or student.

Responsibilities

- Ensure that University courses, programs, services, job opportunities, activities, and facilities, when viewed in their entirety, are offered in the most integrated and appropriate settings possible.
- Provide information regarding policies and procedures to students with disabilities and assure its availability in accessible formats upon request.
- Evaluate students on their abilities, not their disabilities.
- Provide to a student reasonable and appropriate accommodations, academic adjustments, and/or auxiliary aids following a timely request.
- Maintain appropriate confidentiality of records and communication concerning students with disabilities except where disclosure is required by law or authorized by the student.