

Procedures and Information Regarding Requests for Accommodations

The following procedures and information serve as a guide for students seeking special accommodations for disabilities.

A written application for accommodation of a disability must be made by the student (RADA). Verbal disclosure prior to or following admission is not sufficient. Students may apply for special accommodations anytime during their academic curriculum, however, if granted, the accommodation is given only for the academic year in which it is requested. Subsequent applications must follow for each academic year the student is requesting accommodations (including requests during clinical rotations, clerkships, preceptorships, internships, or any other off-campus programs that are part of the students' required college/program curriculum). In the following section 'Dean of Students' refers to the Dean of Students or his/her designee.

Definitions

Disability: The term "disability" means, with respect to an individual; a) a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities of such individual; b) a record of such an impairment; or c) being regarded as having such an impairment. **(42 U.S.C. § 12102 (as amended by the ADA Amendments Act of 2008))** Even if a condition is an impairment, it is not automatically a disability. To rise to the level of a disability, an impairment must substantially limit one or more major life activities.

Impairment: A physical or mental impairment means; a) any physiological disorder, or condition, cosmetic disfigurement, or anatomical loss affecting one or more of the following body systems: neurological, musculoskeletal, special sense organs, respiratory (including speech organs), cardiovascular, reproductive, digestive, genito-urinary, hemic and lymphatic, skin, and endocrine; or b) any mental or psychological disorder, such as mental retardation, organic brain syndrome, emotional or mental illness, and specific learning disabilities. 28 C.F.R. § 35.104; 28 C.F.R. § 36.104 (under the original ADA)

Major Life Activity: Major life activities include, but are not limited to, caring for oneself, performing manual tasks, seeing, hearing, eating, sleeping, walking, standing, lifting, bending, speaking, breathing, learning, reading, concentrating, thinking, communicating, and working. A major life activity also includes the operation of a major bodily function, including but not limited to, functions of the immune system, normal cell growth, digestive, bowel, bladder, neurological, brain, respiratory, circulatory, endocrine, and reproductive functions. **(42 U.S.C. § 12102 (as amended by the ADA Amendments Act of 2008))**

Substantially Limits: The term "substantially limits" means; a) unable to perform a major life activity that the average person in the general population can perform; or b) significantly restricted as to the condition, manner or duration under which an individual can perform a particular major life activity as compared to the condition, manner, or duration under which the average person in the general population can perform that same major life activity. **29 C.F.R. § 1630.2(j) - Substantially Limits (under the original ADA)**