

DISABLED STUDENT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

The District maintains a plan for the provision of programs and services to disabled students designed to assure that they have equality of access to District classes and programs.

The Disabled Students Programs and Services Plan includes the following:

1. Long-range goals and short term objectives for the program
 - a. The primary goal of DSP&S is to help students achieve their educational goals while becoming independent learners.
 - b. The objective is to facilitate access for all students with verified disabilities to the educational programs, student services, and activities of the Colleges.
2. Definitions of disabilities and students eligible for the program
 - a. Any person with a physical, learning, psychological, communication, acquired brain impairment, or sensory impairment which substantially limits one or more major or life activity (functions such as caring for oneself, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, and working): or is regarded as having an impairment, that substantially limits major life activities only as a result of the attitude of others toward such impairment.
 - b. A person with a disability who meets the academic and technical standards requisite to admission for participation in an educational program or activity.
3. Support services and instruction that are required
 - a. Provides equal educational opportunities for students with disabilities in accordance with state and federal laws and regulations including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, etc.
 - b. Ensures equal access of electronic or information technology use in accordance with the amended Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.
 - c. Prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities.
 - d. Mandates federal funding to provide qualified persons with disabilities equal opportunities to those of with no disabilities.
 - c. Requires each program or activity be readily accessible to persons with disabilities.
 - d. Make reasonable adjustments to permit students with disabilities to fulfill academic requirements.
 - e. Recommends academic accommodations and auxiliary aids to comply with state and federal laws and regulations.
 - f. Students must be given the opportunity to acquire information and be evaluated to determine their knowledge of the subject.
 - g. Ensures reasonable architectural barrier free access of campus facilities.
4. Verification of disability
 - a. Must be a documented verification from a specialist specifically trained to verify the disability in question (e.g. a medical physician, learning specialist, counselor, DSPS coordinator, or other appropriate licensed or credentialed professional.)

5. Student rights
 - a. Students with verified disabilities have the right to receive academic adjustments, and auxiliary aids.
 - b. Students have the right to confidentiality of their disability records.

6. Student responsibilities
 - a. Students are responsible for identifying themselves to the instructors.
 - b. It is recommended students make use of the services of the Colleges' DSP&S Counselor/Specialist.
 - c. Students must provide verification of his/her disability.
 - d. Students are required to meet time-lines and procedural requirements established by the Colleges' DSP&S offices.
 - e. Students must have a condition that impairs a major life activity or a history of such a condition, or be regarded as having such a condition.
 - f. The person with disabilities must be qualified for the job, program or activity to which he/she seeks access.

7. Student educational contract (SEC) or plan that is developed by a designated person in consultation with the student
 - a. The Colleges provide academic counseling, educational planning, career and personal counseling.
 - b. The Colleges coordinate necessary support services and acts as a resource to help students obtain appropriate services beyond those provided at the Colleges.

8. Academic accommodations and Services
 - a. Specialized tutoring
 - b. Specialized classes
 - c. Tape recording of lectures
 - d. Note taking services
 - e. Extra time to complete required materials
 - f. Extended time on tests
 - g. Tests scribed and/or proctored by instructional assistants
 - h. Students may use guide dogs/service dogs
 - i. Adaptive physical education
 - j. Alternate Media of textbooks and course materials: Books on tape or other auditory format, enlargement of tests and course materials, Braille of tests and course materials, closed captioned videos, assistive computer technology
 - k. Specialized equipment loan (e.g. Closed circuit television)
 - l. Cassette tape recorders, note-taking devices, and FM systems can be checked out
 - m. Sign language interpreter services
 - n. Services: Specialized counseling, registration assistance, mobility assistance, learning disability eligibility assessment, reduced course load

9. Provisions for course substitution and waivers

When the severity of the disability precludes successful completion of a course required for Associates degree or certificate, a course substitution shall be considered.

10. Staffing

The District provides appropriate levels of staff to meet student needs.

11. Advisory committee

- a. The role of the committee is to share information, meet and discuss what to do to better serve students with disabilities, and to share information regarding programs and services available at the Colleges.
- b. Members of the advisory committee are from the Colleges and local community service agencies.

Title 5, California Code of Regulations, Section 56000