University Presentations: Department of Student Services

• Order of Presentations:
  • University of Memphis
  • University of Tennessee Knoxville
  • Austin Peay State University
Purpose

The purpose of Disability Resources for Students is to act as a catalyst to:

• Advocate equal access and inclusion through Universal Design of all University programs and activities and through accommodations that remove barriers to participation

• Encourage understanding of disability by educating all members of the University community

• Promote development and independence of students with disabilities
Disability Resources for Students

Provides reasonable academic accommodations that provide an equal opportunity or access to participate in the education process, so long as those requirements:

• Do not fundamentally alter the nature of the program
• Do not fundamentally alter the nature of the course
• Do not fundamentally alter the evaluation methods/standards set forth by the instructor
• Are supported by the documentation provided
DRS Goals

• Assist students to establish a connection to the University of Memphis
• Improve student access to and use of assistive technology (AT) to increase academic success and success.
• Increase retention and graduation rates for students with disabilities.
• Promote knowledge and understanding of disability across the U of M community
• Assist students to identify, develop and demonstrate the career competencies necessary for success in their chosen fields
Accommodations

• Accommodations are determined on an individual basis and depend on the nature and degree of the disability, the nature of the course, documentation of the disability and history of accommodations.

• The most common accommodations include exam accommodations, note taking assistance, and alternatives to print materials.

• To request accommodations, simply follow the instructions at https://www.memphis.edu/drs/disabilitysvcs/getstarted.php
Additional Services

- Priority Registration
- Assistance with Class Schedules
- First HIRES
- Career Tracks
Academic Coaching

• Coach academics
• Monitor progress
• Prevent problems
• Suggest strategies

“Even when I wanted to give up, he encouraged me through the semester.” – current student, regarding weekly meetings with one of our Graduate Assistants
Specific Questions About Your Student?

Please contact us at:
• 110 Wilder Tower
• 901-678-2880 (Voice)
• drs@memphis.edu
Student Disability Services

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Accommodations Coordinators
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About Student Disability Services

The mission of SDS is to partner with the campus community in creating equitable access for eligible students while promoting disability-inclusive diversity.

• Provide accommodations and aids
• Advocate for access
Registering with SDS

Students may be referred to and register with SDS at any time.

1. Schedule a Welcome Meeting
2. Complete the online registration form
3. Provide documentation about disability
   - Establish disability, impact of disability, and needed accommodations
4. Attend Welcome Meeting
   - Provisional accommodations may be provided
Welcome Meeting

- Meet with accommodations coordinator
- Discuss functional limitations related to disability
- Collaboratively determine necessary and reasonable accommodations
  - Accommodations should provide equitable access
  - Accommodations should not fundamentally alter a course
Accessing Accommodations

• Send accommodation letters to professors
  • Only contains approved accommodations that students choose to include
• Meet with professors to discuss accommodations
• Follow procedures to access specific accommodations (e.g. requesting note takers, scheduling exams in the SDS testing center, check-out smart pen, etc.)
• Contact your accommodations coordinator when needed
Confidentiality

- Privacy of disability documentation and accommodation information are protected through the ADA, Section 504, and FERPA
- Students do not have to share information related to disability with professors; only accommodations should be discussed
- Students may choose to disclose disability information to faculty, parents, peers, etc., but it’s never required
- SDS will not disclose disability information without written consent from student
Types of Accommodations

- Alternative Testing
- Course Access
- Note Taking Services
- Note Taking Technology
- Interpreting and Transcribing Services
- Alternative Formats
- Registration
- Transportation
- Housing
Examples of accommodations

- 50% more time on exams and quizzes
- Permission to audio record class lectures and discussions
- Note taking assistance
- Smart pen
- Sign language interpreting

- Printed materials in searchable and accessible PDF format
- Priority registration
- T-Access shuttle
- Room assignment on the lowest floor possible
Skills for Success

• Self-advocacy
• Communication skills
• Time management
• Accountability
• Self-care
  • Stress management
• Study skills
Questions?

Student Disability Services
100 Dunford Hall
Voice: (865) 974-6087
Videophone for consumers who are Deaf: (865) 622-6566
Email: sds@utk.edu
Web: sds.utk.edu
OFFICE OF DISABILITY SERVICES (ODS) Staff:

Jamie McCrary-Director
David Sanford-AT Coordinator
Elitha Johnson-Testing Coordinator
Dustie Dyce-Boxx-Administrative Assistant
ODS mission statement:

To ensure access for students with disabilities to ALL curricular and co-curricular opportunities offered at APSU.
Defining disability-
The ADA defines a disability as an individual who:

- Has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities to include major bodily functions - OR
- Has a record of such impairment
Disability identity:

- Visible vs. non-visible disability
- Permanent vs. temporary disability
Laws/Policies That Protect Persons With Disabilities In Post Secondary Education

- ADA
- ADAA(2008)
- Section 504 of The Rehabilitation Act of 1973
- Title II And Title III
- OCR
- APSU Policy 6:004
College disability population:

- College students with a disability – 25-30%
- National average of students that disclose their disability – 19%
- APSU students who have disclosed their disability – 8%
Types of accommodations: (not limited to)

- Extended Testing Time (Example 1.5)
  - Minimal Distraction Testing Area
    - Note-Taker Services
  - Use of Assistive Technology
    - Preferred Seating
  - Adjustable Seats/desks
  - Copy of Power Points
How students receive accommodations

- Identify to the ODS office
  - Complete student application online [www.apsu.edu/disability](http://www.apsu.edu/disability)
- Complete intake meeting with Director/Associate Director
  - Request accommodations each semester via accommodation portal
- Receive Accommodation Letters Via Email
It is **recommended (not required)** that student and instructor have a conference to discuss the approved accommodations. This can be done in person, on the phone, or via email. Once the conference is completed, please forward the information to **DisabilityServices@apsu.edu**.

- **In person** – Student or Instructor may deliver a signed copy of the conference form to ODS.
- **On the phone** – Send an email to ODS stating you have conferenced with the student. Please CC: the student in the email. The student may also email ODS and CC: the instructor.
- **Email** – Forward the final email to ODS.
Students may not use all accommodations requested. It is at the student’s discretion on what accommodations he/she will utilize.

• EX 1.) Student may be approved for minimal distraction testing location but does not feel that it is needed for every test.
• EX 2.) Student may be approved for CART services but he/she may decide to use a recorder or a note taker in lieu of, if approved.
Assistive Technology

*Assistive technology* (AT) is any item, piece of equipment, software program, or product system that is used to increase, maintain, or improve the functional capabilities of persons with disabilities. AT can be computer software: screen readers and communication programs or devices.
Alternative formats include audio, braille, electronic or large print versions of standard print such as educational material, textbooks, information leaflets and test.
CART
Communication access real-time translation (CART), also called open captioning or real-time stenography, or simply real-time captioning,
Assistance Animals

- ODS assess if animal is an assistant animal
- Differences between Assistant animal and Therapy Animal
  - Assistance Animals in the classroom
  - APSU follows HUD policies/procedures
    - Animals on Campus Policy 3:007
Other Programs at APSU

- Full Spectrum Learning
- Student Support Services (Tutoring)
- Adult and Non-traditional Students (ANTS)
- Military Student Center
- Health/Counseling Services
- Student Conduct Manager
- Tuition Reduction Program
Together WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE