

## DISABLED STUDENT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

The District maintains a plan for the provision of programs and services to students with disabilities designed to assure that they have equality of access to District classes and programs. The Disabled Students Programs and Services (DSPS) is the primary provider of support programs and services that facilitate equal educational opportunities for students with verified disabilities who can benefit from instruction as required by federal and state laws.

The provision of programs and services for disabled students includes the following:

1. Long-range goals and short-term objectives for the program
  - a. The primary goal of DSPS 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 by providing reasonable accommodations and instruction that permit DSPS students to more fully participate in their academic pursuits.
2. Definitions of disabilities and students eligible for the program
  - a. Any person with a disability consistent with a Title 5 definition of a disability.
  - b. A person with a verified disability who meets the academic and technical standards requisite to admission for participation in an educational program or activity.
3. Required support services and instruction
  - a. Provide equal educational opportunities for students with disabilities in accordance with state and federal laws and regulations including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and other relevant legislation.
  - b. Ensure equal access to electronic or information technology use in accordance with the amended Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and California Government Code Sections 7405 and 11135.
  - c. Prohibit discrimination against individuals with disabilities.
  - d. Manage federal and state funding to provide eligible persons with disabilities equal opportunities to those without disabilities.
  - e. Ensure that all DSPS programs and activities, as well as broader college programs and services, are readily accessible to persons with disabilities.
  - f. Make reasonable adjustments to permit students with disabilities to fulfill academic requirements.
  - g. Recommend academic accommodations and auxiliary aids to comply with state and federal laws and regulations.
  - h. Provide students with the opportunity to acquire information and be evaluated to determine their knowledge of the subject through the provision of reasonable accommodations.
  - i. Ensure access to campus facilities compliant with ADA requirements.

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, in a timely fashion.
  - b. Students have the right to confidentiality of their disability records.
  - c. Students have right to appeal decisions related to reasonable accommodations.
6. Student responsibilities
  - a. Students must register with the DSPS Office at each college from which they are requesting services.
  - b. Students are responsible for identifying themselves to the instructors and for disclosing the approved DSPS accommodation(s) being requested of that instructor.
  - c. Students must request services each semester based on their course schedule.
  - d. It is recommended students make use of the services of the colleges' DSPS program.
  - e. Students must provide verification of their disability.
  - f. Students are required to meet timelines and procedural requirements established by the colleges' DSPS offices.
  - g. Students must have a condition that impairs a major life activity, a history of such a condition, or be regarded as having such a condition.
  - h. The person with a disability must be otherwise qualified for the job, program or activity to which they seek access and be able to participate in the interactive process.
  - i. Students must meet DSPS program staff at least one time per year.
7. Academic Accommodation Plan (AAP) 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 act as a resource to help students obtain appropriate services beyond those provided at the colleges.
8. Academic accommodations and services may include:
  - a. specialized tutoring;
  - b. educational assistance classes;
  - c. recording of lectures;
  - d. note taking services;
  - e. extended time on tests;
  - f. tests scribed and/or proctored by instructional assistants;
  - g. alternate media of textbooks and course materials;
  - h. specialized equipment loan (e.g., closed circuit television);

- i. recording devices, note-taking devices, and FM systems can be checked out;
- j. sign language interpreter and captioning services;
- k. services - specialized counseling, registration assistance, mobility assistance, learning disability eligibility assessment, reduced course load; and
- l. emotional support animals.

9. Provisions for course substitution and waivers

When the severity of the disability precludes successful completion of a course required for Associate's 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 committee are from the colleges and local community service agencies.

Students with disabilities are not required to participate in the DSPS program.

Title 5, California Code of Regulations, Section 56000, 56001, 56002, 56006, 56008, 56010, 56020, 56022, 56026, 56027, 56028, 56029, 56030, 56032, 56034, 56035, 56036, 56037, 56038, 56039, 56040, 56042, 56044, 56046, 56048, 56050, 56052, 56054, 56060, 56062, 56064, 56066, 56068, 56070, 56072, 56074, 56076