

Accessibility Compliance Center and Educational Support Services (ACCESS)

College Academic Senate

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Legal Requirements

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- **Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulate the provision of services and accommodations for students with disabilities in higher education.**
- **The purpose of accommodations is to provide equal access to learning.**
- **Students with disabilities must be otherwise qualified.**

Legal Requirements

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- Reasonable accommodations provide access to college educational programs and services.
- ADA defines what accommodations are “not reasonable.”
 - ADA states that colleges need not provide accommodations if it would create an “undue burden.”
- OCC students who experience disabilities have rights and responsibilities.
- Medical and counseling information is kept confidential.

ACCESS Offices: Annual Caseloads

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- **2011/12: 3,494**
 - 1,922 individual students
- **2012/13: 2,948**
 - 1,863 individual students
- **2013/14: 3,431**
 - 2,092 individual students
- **Note: Does not include prospective students who meet with the ACCESS Coordinators**

How are service hours determined?

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- **When the majority of students registered with ACCESS are taking classes**
 - Example from OR ACCESS
- **Staffing limitations**
- **When demand is greatest – when the majority of students can get to campus**
 - Morning rush
 - Noon rush
 - Afternoon tutoring and testing

What resource limitations are you dealing with as you determine service hours and accommodations?

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- **Part time and temporary staff**
- **Funding limitations**
- **Limited availability of part time tutors and accommodation providers**
- **Limited physical space and equipment in ACCESS offices**
- **Union contract restrictions and unique, non-duplicated roles of ACCESS staff**

What efforts are you making to tailor ACCESS services and hours to the needs of specific campuses?

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- **ACCESS tracks student class enrollment to determine when need is greatest**
 - ACCESS services and hours are tailored to students and their needs
- **Limited resources require tailoring to majority needs**

How are student accommodations determined?

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- **Intake interviews**
 - Documentation
 - Functional limitations
- **Course objectives, technical standards, and learning outcomes of the classes**
 - Student needs may go beyond reasonable accommodations
 - Accommodations are for learning – not behavior. All students are expected to meet the requirements of the OCC Code of Student Conduct.

What student accommodations and services are available?

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- **Testing accommodations**
- **Supplemental class notes**
- **Accommodation providers**
 - Scribes, readers, sign language interpreters
 - Instructional assistants
 - ✦ Differs from personal/medical care assistants hired by family members
- **Tutors**
- **Referrals and academic progress tracking**

What student accommodations and services are available? (con't)

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- **Assistive technology**
 - JAWS, Dragon, Kurzweil, MAGIC
 - Electronic textbooks
 - Recording devices/notes
 - ✦ Cellphone, Ipad, laptop
 - FM units/personal listening devices

Collaboration is the key ...

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- **Accommodating and serving students is a collaborative effort**
- **Questions and concerns can be addressed through your campus ACCESS Office**