

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

References: *American with Disabilities Act (ADA) (PL 11-336)*
 ADA Amendments Act 2008
 Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504 (34 C.F.R Sections 104.3 (j) (1)
 and (k) (3) and Sections 104.44 (a) and (b) (1) (ii)
 Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations
 Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974

The Southwestern Community College District is committed to providing an inclusive educational environment which is responsive and accessible to the needs of all students. Students with disabilities shall be reasonably accommodated pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 in all applicable District programs. The fundamental principles of nondiscrimination and accommodation in academic programs provide that:

- No student with a qualified disability shall, on the basis of the disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefit of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any post-secondary education activity or program; and
- Reasonable accommodations or adjustments to academic activities or requirements shall be made as are necessary to ensure that such requirements do not discriminate or have the effect of discrimination on a student with a qualified disability; and
- The College District shall create an educational environment where students with disabilities have equal access to instruction, including instruction taking place in a clinical setting, without compromising the essential components of the course, educational program, or degree, including instruction taking place in a clinical setting within the scope of the program technical standards, while ensuring patient safety.

The Disability Support Services (DSS) program shall be the primary provider for support programs and services that facilitate equal educational opportunities for students with disabilities who can benefit from instruction as required by federal and state laws.

DSS services shall be available to students with verified disabilities. The services to be provided include, but are not limited to, reasonable accommodations, academic adjustments, accessible facilities, equipment, instructional programs, rehabilitation counseling and academic counseling.

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No student with disabilities is required to participate in DSS programs and services. The point of contact regarding accommodations for students who choose not to register with DSS is the 504 Compliance Officer/Dean of Student Services.

The College District shall respond in a timely manner to accommodation requests involving academic adjustments. The Superintendent/President, in consultation with the Vice President for Student Affairs, shall establish a procedure to implement this policy which, at a minimum, provides for an individualized review of each such request, and permits interim decisions on such requests pending final resolution by the appropriate administrator or designee.

The Superintendent/President shall assure that the DSS program conforms to all requirements established by the relevant law and regulations.

All complaints of unlawful discrimination on the basis of physical or mental disability shall be filed with the Human Resources Compliance Coordinator in the Office of the Vice President for Employee Services under College District Procedure No. 3430AP-Prohibition of Harassment & Discrimination.

Office of Primary Responsibility: Disability Support Services