

Accessibility Services

Accommodation Agreement

Southern California University Health Sciences (SCU) is committed to equal educational opportunities for students with disabilities in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the American with Disabilities Act as amended (ADA). Student Services and is designated to review disability documentation, determine reasonable accommodations, and develop plans for the provision of such accommodations. As a student requesting academic accommodations through Student Services, I both understand and agree to the following:

Student Rights

Every qualified student with a documented disability or disabling condition has the right to:

1. A timely intake assessment to determine reasonable accommodation eligibility.
2. Equal access to University courses, programs, services, activities, and facilities with or without reasonable accommodation.
3. Reasonable accommodations, as determined on a case-by-case basis through an interactive process between the student and Student Services.
4. Appropriate privacy of all records regarding their disability and, except as required or permitted by law, the choice as to whom to disclose this information.

Student Responsibilities

If I become a student with approved accommodations through Student Services following a review of my request, documentation, and the interactive process, I understand that I have the responsibility to:

1. Follow the reasonable accommodations eligibility determination procedures: produce previous, current and/or updated documentation from a qualified professional source that verifies the current nature of the disability, the current functional limitations resulting from the disability, and the justification for the specific requested accommodation to be eligible for and/or maintain eligibility of services.
2. Provide faculty with Accommodation Letter at the start of each term or soon thereafter.
3. Contact Student Services to make all request(s) for the use and implementation of exam accommodations, alternative format, and services with the advanced notice set forth for each requested auxiliary aid and/or academic adjustment.
4. Requests submitted without reasonable advanced notice may result in a delay and/or inability for Student Services to coordinate and/or implement the service requested.
5. State and national testing boards will honor requests for student accommodations. ***When requesting accommodations, it is important to understand that NBCE, California Acupuncture***

Board, Physician Assistant Certification, and other state and national testing boards enforce their own specific and tailored requirements, which may require the student to provide additional or different documents than what has been submitted to the Academic Support Office. These state and national testing boards can deny any accommodation(s) request even if SCU has accepted and approved the request. Students are encouraged to reach out to their state and national testing boards for further information.

6. It is always a student's right, and personal choice, to determine if they chose to disclose their disability to Student Services. Disclosing your disability can be done at any point in the term and does not require that accommodations be used.
7. Accommodations cannot be given retroactively if a student makes the choice not to disclose their disability to Student Services. Alternatively, if a student does disclose their disability but does not request their letters of accommodations, accommodations will not be granted.

Institutional Rights and Responsibilities

I understand that Student Services has the right and responsibility to:

1. Act in accordance with the University's academic standards.
2. Request current, comprehensive documentation to verify a student's need for reasonable accommodations in the University setting.
3. Discuss a student's need for reasonable accommodations with the professional source of their documentation (with the student's signed consent authorizing such discussion).
4. Discuss the nature of course, curriculum, program, or degree requirements with University personnel responsible for the course, curriculum, program, or degree.
5. Coordinate with faculty and staff to ensure recommended accommodations are reasonable on a case-by-case basis in each situation and if so, that such accommodations are subsequently implemented.
6. Share information regarding a student's disability adjustments and/or modifications with University faculty and/or administrative staff on a need-to-know basis, to facilitate the interactive process and assess reasonable accommodations.
7. Designate a student's adjustments from a range of reasonable accommodations including equally effective alternatives.
8. Periodically review recommended reasonable accommodations to ensure their continued necessity and/or reasonableness in a particular program, course of study, classroom setting or environment, and access to other University programs, services, or benefits.
9. Deny a request for services and/or specific accommodation if:
 - The requested accommodation is found to pose a direct threat to the health and safety of the student or others,
 - The requested accommodation fundamentally alters a course or program,
 - The requested accommodation is found to be an undue burden.
 - The request is not communicated directly by the student,
 - There is no identifiable relationship between the requested adjustment and the limitations of the disability,

- The necessary information required as part of the interactive process is inadequate and/or not provided in a timely manner, or
- If an equally effective accommodation is identified as a reasonable alternative to the requested accommodation.

I understand, through the submission of this request, my rights and responsibilities as a student requesting services from Student Services. I understand and agree that a failure to adhere to the accommodation agreement set forth by Student Services may directly impact my eligibility for services, individualized assessments that are necessary for a requested change in services, implementation of approved services, and/or continuation of services.

Student Signature