

# Disability Services

## How to Request Service

Students who are seeking support services on the basis of a diagnosed disability are required to present current (Preferably within the last three years) and appropriate documentation, so as to verify eligibility under section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Drop off appropriate documentation with student services at the front desk or with the directors office.

Once your medical documentation has been reviewed and determined to be sufficient, you must then schedule an appointment with KD Conservatory Director Shelly Brandon in order to discuss and pre-arrange accommodations.

Letters of accommodation will be generated based on this request and the accommodation agreed upon.

## FAQ's

### 1. What kinds of accommodations are offered?

Each student is treated as an individual. Accommodations are based on the recommendations found within their documentation and what is deemed appropriate for the college setting.

### 2. How do I register for Academic Accommodations?

The student must present current and appropriate documentation to the Director of the college.

### 3. What services are available to students with disabilities?

KD Conservatory provides academic accommodations to students with documented disabilities. The services are disability specific.

Some common services are classroom accommodations, testing accommodations, and mentoring/time management assistance.

Again, the services are dependent upon the student's specific needs.

### 4. As a student with a disability leaving high school and entering postsecondary education, will I see differences in my rights and how they are addressed?

Yes. Section 504 and Title II protect elementary, secondary and postsecondary students from discrimination. Nevertheless, several of the requirements that apply through high school are different from the requirements that apply beyond high school. For instance, Section 504 requires a school district to provide free appropriate public education (FAPE) to each child with a disability in the district's jurisdiction. Whatever the disability, a school district must identify an individual's education needs and provide any regular or special education and related aids and services necessary to meet those needs as well as its meeting the needs of students without disabilities. Unlike your high school, your postsecondary school is not required to provide FAPE.

Rather, your postsecondary school is required to provide appropriate academic adjustments as necessary to ensure that it does not discriminate on the basis of disability.

**5. Do I have to inform a postsecondary school that I have a disability?**

No. However, if you want the school to provide academic accommodation, you must identify yourself as having a disability.

Likewise, you should let the school know about your disability if you want to ensure that you are assigned to accessible accommodations. In any event, your disclosure of a disability is always voluntary.

**6. When should I request an academic adjustment?**

Although you may request an academic adjustment from your postsecondary school at any time, you should request it as clearly as possible. Some academic adjustments may take more time to provide than others. You should follow your school's procedures to ensure that your school has enough time to review your request and provide an appropriate academic adjustment.

**7. Do I have to prove that I have a disability to obtain an academic adjustment?**

Generally, yes. Your school probably will require you to provide documentation that shows you have a current disability and need an academic adjustment.

**8. May Institutions of postsecondary education deny an applicant admission because he or she has a disability?**

No. If an applicant meets the essential requirements for admission, an institution may not deny that applicant admission simply because he or she has a disability, nor may an institution categorically exclude an applicant with a particular disability as not being qualified for its program.

**9. My doctor says I should get unlimited time for taking tests. The disability office says I'm allowed time and a half- why?**

The college has the responsibility under Federal law for ensuring access to their programs and activities by students with disabilities.

Often, the office for disabled student services is delegated the authority to make decisions on what is regarded as reasonable adjustments to ensure equal access because they have the knowledge, credentials, and experience to do this. KD Conservatory uses medical or other professional documentation provided by the student as a basis for making such decisions but they are not required to follow exactly the recommendations made in the documentation provided.

**10. What are the responsibilities of a student with a disability if he or she would like to receive accommodation?**

A student with a disability is responsible for requesting accommodations through the Director. The Director will not seek the student out. A student with a disability is also responsible for providing acceptable documentation of his or her disability.