

Disabled Students' Program Fact Sheet and Resources 10/30/2018

Berkeley's Disabled Students' Program

- The Disabled Students' Program (DSP) currently serves 2600 students with disabilities including graduate and undergraduate students and has grown from 1900 in the past two years. This represents about 6% of the undergraduate population and is still an under-representation of the number of students with disabilities who are actually on campus. Nationally 10-15 % of college students are reported to have disabilities.
- 87% of our DSP students have non-visible disabilities including learning disabilities, chronic health conditions, and psychological disabilities. 145 of our current students have temporary disabilities.
- Last year DSP proctored 8,072 exams, produced 6,769 documents in alternative media, provided 5,011 hours of live captioning, and provided 1,772 note-takers to students with disabilities.
- DSP is your first point of contact when concerns arise regarding academic accommodations. DSP disability specialists can provide additional information about the implementation of accommodations or address faculty concerns that an accommodation is not appropriate for a specific class.
- Accommodating students with disabilities is a shared responsibility between faculty and DSP. Facilitating accommodations takes time and resources.

DSP Process for Receiving Accommodations

1. Student submits an online application and medical documentation to DSP to verify disability and functional limitations.
2. Student has an intake interview with a disability specialist to review the disability related barriers the student experiences in the educational setting and to discuss possible accommodations and services to overcome those barriers and give the student access.
3. Disability specialists, who are trained professionals with master's degrees, review medical documentation and the student's intake information to determine reasonable and appropriate accommodations.
4. The disability specialist generates an accommodation letter, which the student can then request to be sent to faculty.
5. If a student's disability related needs change, they can request a review of accommodations.
6. Specialists are available to assist faculty with the implementation of accommodations in specific settings.

Some Helpful Guidelines for Working with Students with Disabilities

- Students with disabilities may request DSP services at any time and legally we must serve them if they qualify for services.
- Confidentiality: The names of DSP students should not be shared with anyone, including other DSP students. Students with disabilities should not be asked for medical documentation; DSP specialists can review documentation and affirm medical need as necessary.
- Individual accommodations: Students with disabilities have a right to individualized notice regarding accommodations.
- Faculty should consult with DSP specialists before modifying an accommodation request. The specialist who signed the letter of accommodations is your first point of contact for concerns.
- The DSP Director, Karen Nielson, is available to assist with concerns that arise and is also available to come share information with faculty and staff. knielson@berkeley.edu.
- DSP will be offering some faculty forums in the coming months, please attend if you can.

Additional Resources

Disabled Students' Program: dsp.berkeley.edu

DSP Resources for Faculty: dsp.berkeley.edu/faculty

Suggestions on Teaching Students with Disabilities:
dsp.berkeley.edu/faculty/resources/teaching

Campus Access Services: <https://access.berkeley.edu/home>