

Office for Students with Disabilities

The Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) is available to provide reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. The goal of the program is to ensure that students with disabilities have equal access to Normandale courses, programs, and events through appropriate and reasonable accommodations.

WHAT IS A DISABILITY?

According to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and 2008, a person with a disability is someone with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, has a record of such an impairment, or is regarded as having such an impairment. This includes but is not limited to, performing manual tasks, seeing, hearing, eating, sleeping, walking, standing, concentrating, speaking, breathing, learning, reading, thinking, communicating, and working.

WHAT ARE EXAMPLES OF DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATED THROUGH THE OFFICE FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES?

The disability areas accommodated include, but are not limited to, learning disabilities, hearing and vision losses, physical, intellectual, and psychological disabilities, attention deficit and autism spectrum disorders, brain injuries, and other health disabilities.

HOW DO STUDENTS REGISTER WITH THE OSD?

Students need to gain admission to Normandale Community College and follow the Admission's Office information sent in the acceptance packet. New students register for courses after attending an online orientation; once students are registered for classes, they may meet with an OSD staff member for an intake/interview. At the intake interview, students present documentation of a disability, which may include high school special education records or a report from a licensed psychologist, disability specialist, or medical provider. Once students have presented documentation of their disability and have completed the intake/interview with the OSD staff, a variety of accommodations may be provided, which are determined on a case-by-case basis during the intake/interview process.

WHEN SHOULD STUDENTS BEGIN TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR RECEIVING ACCOMMODATIONS THROUGH THE OSD?

OSD staff are available to complete intakes throughout the year, including the summer and semester breaks. Students should make an appointment for an intake/interview several weeks before classes begin. This is essential to arrange for certain accommodations including audio textbooks, interpreters, and other OSD services; late registration may limit immediate assistance. Students who need a sign language interpreter should contact the OSD office before attending an orientation session.

CAN THE COLLEGE CHARGE FOR PROVIDING ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS?

Reasonable accommodations implemented by the OSD are free of charge.

WHAT ARE EXAMPLES OF REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS THAT ARE PROVIDED BY THE OSD FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES?

- Accommodations for the Accuplacer placement tests
- Alternative testing that may include extended time, a quiet place, audio recording, or writing assistance
- Note taking or audio recording of lectures
- Audio format textbooks
- Adjustable tables or chairs
- Sign language interpreting
- Provision of and/or orientation to assistive technology
- Priority Registration
- Other reasonable accommodations

WHAT OTHER SERVICES DOES THE OSD PROVIDE?

- Feedback on course selection
- Organization or time management assistance
- Support for coping with a disability in college
- Assistance with faculty contacts
- Referral to other services on campus such as tutoring or advising and counseling

WHAT KINDS OF SERVICES ARE NOT PROVIDED BY THE OSD?

- Assistance with homework
- Individually prescribed devices
- Attendants
- Transportation
- Case manager
- Personal tutoring
- Readers for personal use or study
- Special college classes

MUST THE OSD PROVIDE STUDENTS ALL OF THE ACCOMMODATIONS AND AUXILIARY AIDS THEY REQUEST?

Normandale is not required to provide academic adjustments or aids that would fundamentally alter the nature of a program or the academic requirements that are considered essential to a program or study or to meet licensing requirements.

OSD CONTACT INFORMATION

OSD Main Office/Appointments 952-358-8625
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OSD website: www.normandale.edu/osd Information such as the "Steps brochure for Normandale and OSD registration are available at this site under "Resources"

This information can be obtained in alternative formats upon request.