As a University of Idaho faculty member, you play an important role in promoting equal access for students with disabilities.

What are Accommodations?

Accommodations are designed to enable students with a documented disability an equal opportunity to participate in the university experience through equal access in courses, programs, activities, or services. However, they should not require a substantial change in the fundamental and essential requirements of the curriculum or substantial change in a program or service. CDAR partners with faculty as needed to help determine the appropriateness of certain accommodations in the context of academic course requirements.

The following are accommodations you may see when CDAR emails you the accommodation form. This is not an exhaustive list but includes some accommodations that are common to our office. If you have a question about an accommodation, contact CDAR for more information.

Common Accommodations

Testing

Testing accommodations can be provided by the professor or can be arranged with CDAR’s testing services.

Alternative Testing Environment-a reduced distraction, small group, or private testing allows students to focus more on the exam and not distractions around them or not distract other students.

Computer for Essay Responses- allows students the opportunity to show their knowledge without grammar and spelling errors, penmanship, or organization detracting from the overall quality of the answer.

Extended time- typically 150% to 200%, if the exam is online, please make the appropriate adjustment in BBlearn.

Make-up exam or quiz due to flare-up with disability – Due to the nature of the student’s disability or chronic medical condition, it may be necessary for the student to reschedule an exam or quiz.

Memory Aid-Student is authorized to have 1 page, single sided, single spaced cue card on all closed book exams. The nature of the memory aid is to allow students to write down “triggers” that will help access material from memory (mnemonics, for example). It is not to hold answers to questions or contain information written verbatim from the text. For math, it may contain formulas used in the course but cannot contain labels, definitions, or solutions. Instructors are to approve all memory aids at least 3 days prior to the exam. Instructors must initial and date the memory aid, and include it with examination material sent to the testing center.

Sound Stickers-a recording of each question, professors are invited to record the questions in their own voice (contact cdar-testing@uidaho.edu for more information)

Classroom

Access to PowerPoints & notes before class –Student is to receive copies of all PowerPoint materials before class if they are not otherwise available to all students; student and instructor are to discuss how to best transmit/receive materials (electronic or hard copy).
Advance notice & instructions on projects & assignments-Student may need additional time to complete projects and assignments and will contact the professor to make arrangements to receive instructions. If assignments/projects are not listed on the syllabus please give student extra notice.

Audio notetaker software-Student requires use of laptop/tablet during class to record lecture while taking notes. Students use the recording to enhance their notes after class. Students must sign an agreement to not share the recordings and delete all recordings at the end of the semester.

Digital recorder-Student will record the lecture using a digital recorder. Students must sign an agreement to not share the recordings and delete all recordings at the end of the semester.

Emergency Evacuation Assistance-Student will require specialized assistance in the event of an evacuation. Please discuss specifics with the student as soon as possible. If you need assistance with this process, please contact CDAR.

Flexible Attendance- Student is authorized flexible attendance due to the nature of their disability. Student will notify of absence in advance of the missed class. The course syllabus is the basis upon which to begin discussions on flexible attendance with the student.

May be late to class or leave early- If a student has a sudden flare-up with their disability they may be late to class, need to leave early, or step out momentarily.

May need to miss class and make-up work/Possible 1-2 day extension on assignments- Due to the nature of the student’s disability, it is reasonable to extend flexibility with assignment deadlines as an accommodation. Student will communicate with the instructor about the length of extension that is acceptable without compromising the integrity of the course requirements.

Notetaker- A paid Vandal Notetaker is an individual trained in taking notes for individuals with disabilities. They may or may not be a student in the course. If they are not a student enrolled in the course they will not participate in nor disrupt the course in any way. They will require use of a laptop or tablet to take digital notes.

Due to the nature of the student’s disability, it is reasonable to extend flexibility with assignment deadlines as a reasonable accommodation. Student will communicate with the instructor about the length of extension that is acceptable without compromising the integrity of the course requirements.

Real-time Captionist- Captionists provide live transcription to students, ensuring they have full access to in-class information like everyone else. They do their best to remain unobtrusive and will not participate in lectures. They will be using a laptop, which they will network to a smaller netbook to pass off to the student receiving services. The student will need to be able to view the computer screen in class, but only in order to receive the real-time captioning information provided by the captionist.

Sign language interpreter- These individuals are trained and certified to provide the best access for the student. They will not participate nor disrupt the course in any way. The sign language interpreter will generally sit in the front of the classroom and the student will need to sit in close proximity so they can see the interpreter.

Smartpen-Student will use a Smartpen to take notes and record the lecture. Students must sign an agreement to not share the recordings and delete all recordings at the end of the semester.

Use of computer in class- Allow student to use their laptop/tablet during class to take electronic notes, type any written work, listen to any readings on their laptop (using headphones), or to read large print books.