



# LONG ISLAND UNIVERSITY

## STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES POLICY

### PURPOSE

To ensure Long Island University's adherence to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, including changes made by the Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act of 2008.

### STATEMENT OF POLICY

Long Island University does not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities. Long Island University is committed to ensuring access and providing opportunities for all students to participate in University programs and activities.

Under the ADA, a person with a disability is defined as one who has any physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, has a record of such impairment, or is regarded as having such impairment.

Qualified students with disabilities who require accommodations must submit supporting material to the Learning Center, which oversees Disability Support Services.

Upon receipt of a student's request for accommodations, professional staff will review and evaluate supporting documentation, and meet with the student to ascertain their needs. Subsequent to approval, the student will be provided with an Accommodations Form which outlines their approved accommodations. This should be presented to teaching faculty to ensure timely implementation of accommodations. Where necessary, campus departments will be notified, of the need for additional accommodations. Accommodation Forms must be obtained each semester. Files are confidential and maintained in accordance with established privacy laws.

An accommodation is a modification or adjustment to policy, practice, or procedure that will enable a qualified student with a disability the opportunity to participate in and benefit from services offered by the University. Accommodations will be considered reasonable when they do not fundamentally alter the nature of a program, course or service or present an undue administrative burden on the University. Students requesting accommodations are required to submit supporting documentation to verify eligibility under the Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Supporting documentation of the disability must be provided so that the University can, 1) Determine the eligibility for accommodation; and 2) if the student is eligible, evaluate the appropriateness of the requested accommodations. Disability documentation must be current, from a licensed professional, establish the nature and extent of the disability, while also including the basis for the diagnosis. The documentation must also establish the current need for an accommodation. Specific information on documentation requirements can be obtained by going to the LIU website.

The provision of accommodations is determined by SSS, on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the needs of the student, and programmatic/departmental standards. The determination of appropriate and reasonable accommodations is based on supporting documentation.

In reviewing the specific accommodation requested by the student or recommended by the licensed professional, the Learning Center may find that while a recommendation is clinically supported, it is not reasonable given the requirements of a particular student's academic program. Alternately, the Learning Center may propose accommodations that would be appropriate and useful for the student, but which neither the student nor the evaluator have requested.

The University reserves the right to deny services or accommodations in the event that the request is deemed unreasonable or not supported by submitted documentation.

An accommodation is deemed unreasonable if it would pose or cause an undue administrative or financial burden, fundamentally alter the nature of services provided, require significant alteration to the program or activity, or result in the lowering of academic or technical standards.

If the submitted documentation is not current, does not support the existence of a disability, or outline the manner in which the disability impacts the student academically, the request for accommodations will be denied.

Students will be notified in a timely manner whether their request for accommodations have been approved or denied. In the event that a student's request for accommodations has been denied, they will be advised and given the opportunity to supplement the initial supporting documentation.

A student who disagrees with a determination of eligibility or accommodation is encouraged to meet with an administrator from the Learning Center to resolve the matter informally. Students may appeal the denial of the determination to the Dean of Students or their designee.

**POLICY TYPE: OPERATIONS**