



LONG ISLAND UNIVERSITY

SPECIAL HOUSING ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

PURPOSE

To ensure Long Island University's adherence to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Fair Housing Act, as it relates to on-campus housing accommodations for qualified students with documented disabilities.

STATEMENT OF POLICY

In accordance with the University's [Students with Disabilities Policy](#), Long Island University complies with federal and state disability laws, including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Fair Housing Act, that prohibit discrimination and require that universities ensure equal access for qualified persons with disabilities to educational programs, services, and activities, including residential facilities.

Special housing accommodation requests will be determined on a case-by-case basis and are dependent upon availability. Priority is given to students with qualified disabilities under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. All disabilities, and history pertaining to the disability, must be documented by a qualified individual with competence and expertise in the area of diagnosis.

Special housing accommodations are not standard academic accommodations. To determine if special housing accommodations are reasonable accommodations, current and comprehensive documentation must be provided that demonstrates correlations between the student's disability and the need for special housing accommodations that cannot be secured through the housing selection process.

Please note that while medical and/or supporting documentation from a qualified individual is required for review of special housing accommodations requests, providing the University with such documentation does not guarantee approval.

Requests for single rooms based solely on a student's desire for quiet housing are not considered eligible under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. By virtue of the University's on-campus housing, resources, and residential population, a single room does not provide such quiet, distraction-free space to any appreciable degree above living in a double room.

Approved special housing accommodations will not incur additional expenses, unless the student elects to reside in a housing assignment different from the special housing assignment provided by the University. In the event a student declines the special housing assignment provided to them, they would proceed with the housing selection process, subject to the published [residence life rates](#).

The [Service and Support Animals Policy](#) describes special housing accommodations regarding service and support animals.

PROCEDURES

Students submit the [Special Housing Accommodations Request Form](#) to the LIU Learning Center and provide appropriate documentation from a qualified individual to support the request. Special housing accommodation requests will only be considered once appropriate documentation is received.

The documentation must be provided by a licensed professional qualified to make the evaluation, such as a medical specialist, psychologist, or psychiatrist. An assessment from a general practitioner typically does not suffice. All documentation should be submitted on professional letterhead and with the qualifications of the examiner provided.

The documentation provided by the qualified individual should include the following:

- Diagnosis, including the International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision (ICD-9) codes and date of diagnosis.
- If requesting a single room, how does the diagnosis make it **impossible** for the student to live with a roommate?
- Does the diagnosis qualify as a disability that **substantially** limits the ability to perform one or more major life activities? How and which activities?
- Is the impact of the diagnosis life-threatening if the request is not met?
- Is the request an integral component or a treatment plan for the condition in question?
- Are there other ways to meet the student's needs that allow full participation in the Long Island University academic and residential/roommate experience? If not, why?

Special housing accommodations and supporting documentation for returning students are required on or before April 30.

Special housing accommodations and supporting documentation for new students are required on or before May 31.

Please note that returning students are required to submit special housing accommodation requests each year and that previous approval does not guarantee the approval of future special housing accommodation requests.

The LIU Learning Center will consider special housing accommodation requests submitted after the published deadlines if the need was not present before the published deadlines. Please note that the availability of residential facilities needed for special housing accommodations may be further limited once the published deadlines pass.

The LIU Learning Center will review special housing accommodation requests based on learning, mobility, or other health-related need. The following is a summary of the factors considered when reviewing housing accommodation requests:

What is the impairment? An impairment is a disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act only if it substantially limits one or more major life activities. An impairment is substantially limiting if a person is unable to perform an activity as compared to an average person in the general population. Three factors must be considered in determining whether a person's impairment substantially limits a major life activity:

- Its nature and severity;
- Its duration, how long it will last or is expected to last; and,
- Its permanent or long-term impact or expected impact.

What is the significant impact on a major life activity? A major life activity is an activity that an average person can perform with little or no difficulty. Examples may include but are not limited to walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, caring for oneself, sitting, standing, lifting, and reading. Therefore, the following questions must be considered:

- How does the impairment impact access?
- How does the impairment impact functioning?
- Is the accommodation request reasonable and appropriate?

The **timing of the request** is considered. Specifically:

- Was the request made on or before the published deadline for special housing accommodation requests?
- Was the request made as soon as possible after identifying the need (based on date of diagnosis, receipt of housing assignment, change in status, etc.)?

The **feasibility and availability** are also considered. Specifically:

- Is space available that meets the student's needs?
- Can space be adapted to provide the requested configuration without creating a safety hazard (electrical load, emergency egress, etc.)?
- Are there other effective methods or housing configurations that would achieve similar benefits as the requested special housing accommodation?
- How would the approval of this request impact the University's housing commitments to other students?

At the conclusion of the review process, the Director of the LIU Learning Center or designee will respond to the student with the determination of their special housing accommodations request.

If the special housing accommodation is approved, the Director of the LIU Learning Center or designee will notify the Director of LIU Promise or designee of the student's approved special housing accommodations. The Director of LIU Promise or designee is not advised of the student's diagnosis.

The Director of LIU Promise or designee will execute the approved special housing accommodations, subject to availability, and notify the Learning Center of the executed accommodations.

The Director of LIU Promise or designee will notify the student of their executed special housing accommodations.

APPEAL PROCEDURES

If a student with a documented disability believes that they have not been provided with reasonable

special housing accommodations based on access or reasonable consideration, the student should direct their concern to the Dean of Students or designee. The student must provide, in writing, the nature of their concern and any other relevant information within three business days of receipt of notice. The decision of the Dean of Students or designee is final.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Learning Center | [Website](#)

Campus	Phone Number	Email Address	Office Location
Brooklyn, Pharmacy, Hudson, and Global	718.488.1095	Bk-learningcenter@liu.edu	Library Learning Center, Brooklyn Campus
Post and Riverhead	516.299.3057	Post-learningcenter@liu.edu	B. Davis Schwartz Library, Post Campus

Dean of Students

Campus	Phone Number	Email Address	Office Location
Brooklyn, Pharmacy, Hudson, and Global	718.488.1200	deanofstudents@liu.edu	Sloan, Room 301
Post and Riverhead	516.299.1200	deanofstudents@liu.edu	Hillwood Commons, Room 100

APPROVAL

POLICY TYPE: STUDENT AFFAIRS