

Yosemite Community College District Policies and Administrative Procedures

No. 5140

Policy

Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)

Students with disabilities shall be reasonably accommodated pursuant to federal and state requirements in all applicable programs in the District.

The Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS) program shall be the primary provider for academic adjustments, auxiliary aids, services, or instruction that facilitate equal educational opportunities for disabled students who can profit from instruction as required by federal and state laws.

DSPS services shall be available to students with verified disabilities. The services to be provided include, but are not limited to, reasonable accommodations, academic adjustments, technology accessibility, accessible facilities, equipment, instructional programs, rehabilitation counseling, and academic counseling.

Participation by students with disabilities in Disabled Student Programs and Services shall be entirely voluntary. [Title 5 Section <u>56008</u>]

 The District shall respond in a timely manner to accommodation requests involving academic adjustments. The Chancellor shall establish a procedure to implement this policy which, at a minimum, provides for an individualized review of each such request, and permits interim decisions on such requests pending final resolution by the Section 504/ADA Coordinator/Compliance Officer, or other designated official with knowledge of accommodation requirements. [Title 5 Section 56027]

The Chancellor shall assure that the DSPS program conforms to all requirements established by the relevant law and regulations.

References:

 Education Code Sections 67310 and 84850; Title 5 Sections 56000 et seg.

Adopted: June 28, 2004

Last Reviewed: March 13, 2019

Revision Adopted: April 9, 2014, March 13, 2019

Administrative Procedure

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The District maintains a plan for the provision of programs and services to disabled students designed to assure that they have equality of access to District classes and programs. This plan serves as a contract between the District and the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office. It includes long-term goals, short-term measurable objectives, activities for accomplishing the goals, and methods for program evaluation.

Eligible students include those with verified mobility disabilities (locomotion or motor limitations), deaf and hard of hearing limitations, learning disabilities, acquired brain injuries, intellectual disabilities, mental health limitations, blind or low vision conditions and disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism, and other conditions (e.g., asthma, kidney disease, etc.).

Verification of a student's disability must be provided by Title 5 Section 56006 certificated staff to diagnose and/or treat the condition of the student applying for services. In some situations the DSPS certificated staff member may verify the disability of the student by direct observation or review of medical or educational records. To be eligible for services, students must also show proof that their disability creates functional limitations in an academic setting.

Academic adjustments, auxiliary aids and services [Title 5 Section 56002, Education Code Section 56026] are provided to students with disabilities in addition to those services provided to all students. These services enable students with disabilities to participate in regular programs and classes. They include, but are not limited to, adaptive equipment (e.g., tape recorders, adapted keyboards, etc.) and software, registration assistance, accessible parking [Title 5 Section 56066, comparable services], test accommodations, assessments, counseling, sign language interpreters, note takers, alternate media, and specialized tutoring.

Educational assistance instruction in select areas is provided to students with disabilities. These classes are designed to help students overcome educational limitations or acquire skills necessary for completion of the goals set in their academic accommodation plans.

Academic Accommodation Plans are established for all students registered with DSPS in consultation with a DSPS certificated staff member [Title 5 Section 56002, Education Code Section 56026 Academic Adjustments, Auxiliary Aids and Services]. The Academic Accommodation Plan outlines special instructional and educational goals, describes objectives and activities leading to the achievement of students' goals, and measures progress. Services prescribed in the Academic Accommodation Plan are reviewed and updated annually, or more frequently when a change occurs in the students' educational goals or accommodations required.

All student files contain a release of information form that is signed by the student. DSPS student records are confidential and can be disclosed only with the student's written permission.

Students registered with DSPS are expected to comply with the Student Code of Conduct, make responsible use of academic adjustments, auxiliary aids, services and/or instruction, adhere to written service provision policies and make measurable progress towards achievement of the goals set forth in

their Academic Accommodation Plan. [Title 5 Section 56010 Student Responsibilities (section applies to 1 2 ED assistance classes)] 3 Each college has an Advisory Committee that meets a minimum of one time per year to provide direction 4 5 and guidance to the DSPS program. [Title 5 Section 56050] The Committee is comprised of a diverse membership reflecting the community, including students with disabilities.

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Provisions for course substitutions and waivers are established on each campus, along with administrative procedures.

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References:

Title 5 Sections <u>56000 et seq.</u> and <u>56030-56058</u>

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Last Reviewed: March 13, 2019