

POLICY ON ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, disability means, with respect to an individual, a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of such individual; a record of such an impairment; or being regarded as having such impairment.

Multnomah University shall provide reasonable academic adjustments or accommodations necessary to afford equal opportunity and full participation in all programs for qualified students with professionally verified disabilities. These adjustments or accommodations will be provided in the most integrated setting appropriate to the student's needs.

Undergraduate and graduate students needing accommodations are required to file an application with the Assistant Director for Housing & Academic Support (ADHAS) in a timely manner so that the request can be carefully considered and, if approved, appropriate accommodations arranged.

A student with a disability must provide current professional verification by a licensed professional health care provider who is qualified in the diagnosis of the disability. For emotional disabilities, the evaluation must be within one year prior to the accommodation request. For learning disabilities, the evaluation must be within three years prior to the accommodation request.

The verification must include the basis for the diagnosis, the student's present level of functioning of the major life activity affected by disability, and the accommodations needed.

The cost of obtaining the professional verification shall be borne by the student. If the initial verification is incomplete or inadequate to determine the present extent of the disability and appropriate accommodations, the university shall have the discretion to require additional information. All costs to secure this additional information shall be borne by the student.

The ADHAS will evaluate the application and determine what actions are appropriate. The action taken on the application will be communicated to the student. If an accommodation is approved, all relevant personnel will be informed.

A student who believes that the action of the ADHAS was not appropriate may file an appeal with the Academic Dean's Council. The appeal must be submitted in writing within ten working days of the notification of the ADHAS' decision and state the basis for the appeal. The decision of the Academic Dean's Council is final.