



OAKLAND
UNIVERSITY™

The logo features the university's name in a white serif font, with a stylized white swoosh element below it. The background is a photograph of a university campus in autumn, with a paved path, trees with yellow leaves, and students walking.

Disability Support Services & Mental Health Workshop



Nancy Schmitz,
Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of
Students

Sarah Guadalupe,
Director of Disability Support Services

February 28, 2018

Disability Support Services Overview



- DSS supports and advocates for students with a disability
 - Upon determination of a disability, provide reasonable accommodations for students to gain access to the curriculum and activities available on campus
 - Accommodations cannot fundamentally alter the core components of a course
 - Assist students in addressing personal and academic concerns
 - Provider referrals to other University support services, when necessary

Disability Support Services

Fall 2017 Statistics



- 661 students were registered with DSS during the Fall 2017 semester
- The average GPA for registered DSS students was 2.99

Fall 2017

Breakdown by Disability

Type of Disability	Number of Students
Psychological (Depression, Anxiety, PTSD, Psychosis)	172
ADHD	98
Autism	62
Learning Disability (Math, Reading, Writing, Comprehension, Cognitive Impairment)	132
Vision Impairment	13
Hearing Impairment	18
Mobility Impairment	10
Medical Diagnosis	156

Trends in Type of Disability

- There has been an increase in the number of students with emotional and behavioral concerns
 - Psychological Disabilities have increased by 23% in the past year (2017, N=172)
 - Autism Spectrum Disorder Disabilities have increased by 22% in the past year (2017, N=62)
- These include only students that have registered with DSS
 - We know there are many more students with this type of disability that does not register with our office

Request for Accommodations



- Student contacts DSS office to schedule an intake appointment
- During intake appointment medical documentation is reviewed
- DSS staff develop reasonable accommodations that will provide access to the curriculum and activities on campus
- The student will be provided a Faculty Notification Letter (FNL)
- The student is responsible for providing the FNL to each of their faculty members
 - The FNL is effective from the date on the top of the letter or the date in which they provide the letter to the faculty member
 - FNL's are not retroactive

Sample FNL



**CONFIDENTIAL:
FACULTY NOTIFICATION LETTER**
Issued February 12, 2018 for Winter 2018

From: Sarah S. Guadalupe, EdS, LMSW
Director, Disability Support Services
saguadal@oakland.edu

RE: **Doe, J #1234**

Pursuant to the Federal Rehabilitation Act, Oakland University will make reasonable modifications to its academic requirements as are necessary to ensure that such requirements do not discriminate or have the effect of discriminating, on the basis of disability, against a qualified disabled applicant or student; provided however, that no modifications will be made to requirements essential to the instruction being pursued by such student or to any directly related licensing requirements. Reasonable modifications may include changes in the length of time permitted for the completion of degree requirements, substitution of specific courses required for completion of degree requirements, and adaptation of the manner in which specific courses are conducted. Similarly, pursuant to the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act, Oakland University will make reasonable modifications in policies, practices, or procedures when the modifications are necessary to avoid discrimination on the basis of disability; provided however, no modifications will be made that will fundamentally alter the nature of the service, program, or activity.

The student has provided documentation to the Disability Support Services (DSS) Office of a disability and is eligible for the following accommodations:

- **Extended Testing Time (1 ½)** on quizzes and exams. Professor will provide the accommodation for the student whose only need on exams is extended time.

Your assistance with this student is greatly appreciated. Please contact the DSS office with any questions and/or concerns at 248-370-3266, saguadal@oakland.edu, loriszarama@oakland.edu or gough@oakland.edu

SAMPLE

Total Number of Accommodations



- 486 students received testing accommodations
- 186 students received non-testing accommodations
 - Ex: housing, dietary

Responsibility of Faculty Regarding Accommodations



- Provide extended time—time and a half accommodations for students
- Provide a conducive testing environment for students
- Contact Department Chair, Assistant or Associate Dean for any issues related to difficulty with providing accommodations
- Contact DSS with any questions regarding accommodations

Time and a Half Accommodations



- 226 students receive extended testing time—1 ½ time
 - The student's professor provides this accommodation

Additional Testing Accommodations



260 students receive the following testing accommodations that are arranged and provided through the DSS office

- Extended testing time—1 ½ time AND reduced distraction environment
 - 129 students receive this accommodation
- Extended testing time—Double time
 - 38 students receive this accommodation
- Extended testing time—Double time AND a reader and/or scribe
 - 57 students receive this accommodation
- Other accommodations (reduced distraction environment, assistive technology, etc.)
 - 36 students receive this accommodation
- 575 tests/exams/quizzes were administered by DSS during the Fall 2017 semester

Mental Health & Disruptive Behavior



- Psychological Issues
- Disruptive Behaviors
- Assistance for Students and Faculty

Mental Health & Disruptive Behavior

Psychological problems that may present as disruptive behaviors

- Anxiety
- Attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder
- Autism spectrum disorder
- Bipolar affective disorder
- Depression
- Personality disorders
- Schizophrenia
- Drug or alcohol abuse/dependence

Strategies in Addressing Disruptive Behavior



Examples of disruptive behaviors and strategies to address them:

- Dominating discussion
- Loud comments challenging the faculty's presentation
- Inappropriate/excessive emails
- Emotional outbursts in class

Ways We Can Assist

- Faculty consultation with DOS office
- DOS meeting with the student
- Referral to Counseling
- Referral to DSS
- Medical Withdrawal
- Involve Family
- Conduct Referral
- Interim Measures: PNG or Interim Suspension
- Welfare Checks in conjunction with police

Reporting Resources & Contact Information



- Dean of Students Office
 - 120 Vandenberg Hall
 - 248-370-3352
- Counseling Center
 - Graham Health Center
 - 248-370-3465
- Disability Support Services (DSS)
 - North Foundation Hall, Room 103A
 - Monday through Friday 8am-5pm
 - 248-370-3266
 - General Email: dss@Oakland.edu
 - Exam Email: dssexams@Oakland.edu
- Report and Support
 - <https://www.oakland.edu/deanofstudents/behaviorconcern>
- Campus Police
 - 248-370-3331

Questions?

