



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY  
Policies and Procedures

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## Accessibility for Students with Disabilities Policy

### 1. Policy

Simon Fraser University recognizes and affirms the rights of students with disabilities who are academically qualified, to have full, fair and equal access to all University services, programs and facilities and to be welcomed as participating members of the University community.

The University must provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities up to the point of undue hardship. This will not entail any modification of the academic standards of the University or the elimination of the academic evaluation of students.

Students seeking academic accommodation for a disability must bring the request to the attention of the Centre for Accessible Learning in a timely manner, normally with one semester's notice, and must provide appropriate documentation of their disability.

### 2. Definitions

"Student" - In this policy "student" includes an applicant for admission as well as a person who has been admitted and is eligible to register in courses at the University.

"Disability" - A student with a disability is a person who:

- Has been diagnosed by an appropriate professional as having: a mental health impairment; physical impairment; neurological impairment; learning disorder; or sensory impairment, any/all of which may be permanent or temporary and is likely to continue and may significantly interfere with educational pursuits; AND
- Experiences functional restrictions or limitations in their ability to perform the range of life's activities; AND
- May experience attitudinal and/or environmental barriers that hamper their full and self-directed participation in life.

"Reasonable Academic Accommodation" - An academic accommodation is a modification or extension of University resources, or of teaching or evaluation procedures that mitigates the effect of a student's disability on learning. Simon Fraser University has a duty to provide reasonable accommodations to the known limitations of an otherwise qualified student who has a documented disability. Accommodations may be made by providing alternative ways for the student to meet requirements or by adapting the instructional delivery system and/or assessment procedures (for example, through visual language interpreters, note takers, alternate examination formats, adaptive equipment). These accommodations should enable the student to demonstrate their knowledge and skill without diluting curriculum or credentials, or detracting from the responsibility of the student to achieve individual results consistent with course/program requirements and objectives. All reasonable accommodations provided by Simon Fraser University must:

- be based on documented individual disability needs;
- allow the most integrated experience possible;
- not compromise the essential requirements of a course/program for all students; and
- not pose a threat to personal or public safety.

### 3. Accommodations For Students

#### 3.1 General

Accommodations available for students with disabilities must be made on an individual basis and may include priority registration, assisted registration, alternate formats for texts and examinations, for example. Other services may include transition/education planning, campus orientation, accessible on-campus housing, referrals to community resources, and health, counselling, or career services. Students requiring accommodation of a disability must register with the Centre for Students with Disabilities.

#### 3.2 Course/Program Modification

Modifications to program course-load, that is, course-load reduction, and other academic requirements will be available for students with disabilities for whom this is required. In cases where course substitutions are requested, the student and representatives from the department/faculty and the Centre for Accessible Learning will meet in order to discuss an appropriate substitution.

Where the department/faculty curriculum committee determines that there is no appropriate

substitution, the student will receive written notification of this decision. This notification will r l c 4 (s )0.9 (f4).9 (w)1

