Accessibility Services

Family Friday Webinar Series 2023
Welcome Back!

In case you missed last week or want to watch again, you can view the recordings on our website:

tinyurl.com/emoryfamilyfriday

Sherry Ebrahimi
Director, Conference Services and Housing Administration

Shari Obrentz
Associate Dean, Emory College of Arts & Sciences
Meet Today’s Presenters

Sarah Marchetti
Accommodation Specialist
Department of Accessibility Services
First and Second Year Students, Atlanta and Oxford

Ethan Magnes
Accommodation Specialist
Department of Accessibility Services
Third and Fourth Year, Graduate Students
Agenda

• Accommodations Request Process
• How to Register
• What to Expect after Registration
Accommodations Request Process

• Students must reach out to DAS to initiate the registration process

• Documentation is collected and reviewed
  • Qualified student with a disability
  • What are barriers

• An intake meeting is arranged to discuss an accommodation plan and steps in implementation

• All registered students are assigned a Student Access Coordinator (SAS Team – Student Access Services) for support
How to Register

1. Complete the Student Registration Form
2. Submit Documentation
3. Deadline is July 1st to guarantee accommodations in place by 8/23
4. Welcome sessions begin Aug 1 for approved accommodations

Accessibility.emory.edu
## Documentation

### Must...
- Be signed by appropriate professional
- Include disability history and diagnosis
- Include description of current impact
- Be submitted with registration form

### Could be...
- Evaluations
- Detailed doctor report
- Individualized Education Plan (IEP), 504 Plan, or Summary of Performance (SOP)

- Do not currently have specific requirements for age of documentation, however, the less apparent the disability the more information we may require
  - DAS Verification forms (next slide)
  - Provisional approval possible in some instances, pending updated documentation
  - Submit what you have
Forms

- DAS Housing Accommodation Request Form
- DAS Paratransit Form

If you do not have any documentation, please feel free to share these forms with your medical provider:

- DAS ADHD Verification Form
- DAS Communication or Language Disorder Verification Form
- DAS Verification of Physical and Chronic Medical Disorder
- DAS Verification of Mental Health Disorder Form
After Registration

- Monitor Emory email
  - More information/documentation is needed
  - Approval
    - Every student will not require an intake meeting
- Schedule your intake meeting
  - During intake students will need to be ready to talk about their diagnosis and barriers
    - If approved, plan will be finalized during meeting
- May take several weeks before receiving request to schedule intake during busy times
Shift to Student Responsibility

- Request an accommodation letter every semester
- Talk with instructors about accommodations and how they will be implemented
- Reach out to DAS when support is needed
- Accommodations are not retroactive
Student Access Services

• Team dedicated to supporting students with approved accommodations
• Schedule a "Welcome Session" with assigned Student Access Coordinator beginning August 1st
  • Learn how to request letter

Accessibility.emory.edu > "Students" (scroll down)
Common Missteps

- Delay of disclosure
  - Reasonable timeframes for implementation
- Stigma
- Temporary conditions
- Accommodations ≠ success
Transition to Accommodations

What you can do now to prepare

Initiate registration process as soon as possible

Plan for continuum of care

Support student advocacy

Consult DAS with your student
Helping Your Student “Adult”

- **Messages to enforce**
  - You are your own best advocate.
  - It is your responsibility to initiate the process to notify your instructors of your approved accommodations every semester.

- **Questions to ask**
  - Are you able to describe the functional limitations of your disability to DAS staff?
  - Are you ready and comfortable talking to your instructors about what your accommodations are?
Self Advocacy

• Questions students should be prepared to answer
  • What is your disability?
  • When will you use this accommodation?
  • How often will you need to use this accommodation?
  • Will you need this accommodation for every test?
  • How will you communicate with your professor regarding a disability related absence etc?
Jane Jarrow

An Open Letter to Parents of Students With Disabilities About to Enter College

Dear Parents,

I have been working in the area of students with disabilities at the college level for more than 30 years, but that is not why I am writing to you today. I am writing as a parent, and thus as someone who shares all your current anxieties. My daughter, who graduated from high school in early June, will be going away to college this Fall. She has Cerebral Palsy, uses a wheelchair, and has limited speech capabilities, so you can be assured that I have been very involved in the educational programming and planning she has received during her years in the public school system. I wanted to be involved, but I also needed to be involved since, by law, the school could not do anything for, to, or with my daughter regarding her disability without my permission. I sat through countless IEP meetings over the years, I was insistent on certain issues of academic support when I needed to be, and I agonized over everything from teacher selection to her successful social integration with classmates. And now, as I prepare to pack her up and
Coming Up Next...

June 30
Transition of Care

July 14
Advising & Registration

No FF Webinar on July 7
The recording will be available on our website and the Emory Essentials app:
college.emory.edu/orientation
Coming Up Next... (Oxford College)

- June 30: Advising & Registration
- July 14: Transition of Care

No FF Webinar on July 7

The recordings will be available through the following link:
tinyurl.com/oxfordfamilyfridays