



Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
Board Policies
Chapter 1 - System Organization and Administration
Section B - Equal Education and Employment
Opportunity

1B.4 Access for Individuals with Disabilities

Part 1. Definitions.

Subpart A. An individual with a disability:

1. Any person who has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more of such person's major life activities.
2. Any person who has a record of such impairment which means that a person has a history of or has been classified as having a mental or physical impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities.
3. Any person who is regarded as having such an impairment which means:
 - a) Has a physical or mental impairment that may not substantially limit major life activities but that is treated by others as constituting such a limitation;
 - b) Has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits major life activities only as a result of the attitudes of others toward such impairment;
 - c) Has no impairment but is treated by others as having such an impairment.

Subpart B. Personal devices and services: Examples of personal devices and services include wheelchairs; individually prescribed devices, such as prescription eyeglasses or hearing aids; readers for personal use or study; or services of a personal nature including assistance in eating, toileting, or dressing.

Subpart C. Qualified individual: A person who, with or without reasonable modifications to rules, policies, or practices, the removal of architectural, communication, or transportation barriers, or the provision of auxiliary aids and services, meets the essential eligibility requirements for receipt of services or participation in a system office, college, or university program or activity. Essential eligibility requirements include, but are not limited to, academic and technical standards requisite to admission or participation in an education program or activity.

Part 2. General Access Policy. The system office, colleges, and universities will provide access to programs, services and activities to qualified individuals with known disabilities as required by law. Where an individual asks for an accommodation, the system office, college, or university may require the individual to provide documentation.

Part 3. Availability and Notice. Each college and university shall post notices in an accessible format to the public describing 1) college or university prohibition against discrimination, and 2) college or university contact for requesting reasonable accommodation or information.

Part 4. Reasonable Accommodations to Ensure Access to Programs, Services, and Activities. The system office, colleges, and universities shall make reasonable accommodations to ensure access to programs, services, and activities as required by law. Access means that a qualified individual with a disability will not be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities, nor will the individual be subjected to discrimination. Reasonable accommodations may include modifications to rules, policies, or practices, the removal of architectural, communication, or transportation barriers, provision of auxiliary aids or the provision of equally effective programs, services, or activities. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, accommodations will **not** be provided 1) for personal devices or services even though the individual may be a qualified individual with a disability, or 2) that result in a fundamental alteration in the nature of a service, program, or activity or in undue financial or administrative burdens.

Part 5. Offered and/or Sponsored Services or Activities for Qualified Students with Disabilities. Colleges and universities have a responsibility to provide access to services and/or activities that are operated or sponsored by the college or university or that receive significant assistance from the college or university. Such access shall be provided in a reasonable manner as required by law. At a minimum, the following must be offered to qualified students with disabilities: 1) support, counseling, and information services that may include support groups, individual counseling, career counseling and assessment, and referral services, 2) academic assistance services that may include assistive devices, early registration services, early syllabus availability, course selection, and program advising, course work assistance, testing assistance, and modification, and tutoring, and 3) coordination services that may include personnel acting on the student's behalf and serving as the primary contact and coordinator for students needing services, assistance in working individually with faculty and administrators, intervention procedures, and grievance procedures.

Part 6. Procedure. In consultation with the system office, each college and university shall establish a procedure for individuals with disabilities to make requests for accommodations to access programs, services, or activities at the college or university, consistent with state and federal laws. Such procedure for access to programs for individuals with disabilities must, at a minimum, include the following:

1. The system policy statement and system definitions.
2. Assignment and identification of a staff member responsible for administering the delivery of services to individuals with disabilities.
3. Provide a process for appealing a denial of a request for program access.

Date of Implementation: 07/01/95

Date of Adoption: 06/20/95

Date and Subject of Revision: