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What is the Office of Accommodations and Accessibility?

The mission of the Office of Accommodations and Accessibility is to support students with documented disabilities in becoming empowered, independent learners by providing the appropriate accommodations and services necessary to access the educational opportunities at Marist College.

Who is eligible for services?

To receive services and accommodations, students must identify themselves to the Office of Accommodations and Accessibility and present official documentation of their disability. In general, a disability is defined as a physical or mental impairment, which substantially limits one or more major life activities, i.e., walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, working, caring for oneself, and performing manual tasks. Disabilities may include, but are not limited to the following:

Attention deficit disorder

Blindness or visual impairments

Cerebral palsy

Chronic illnesses

Deafness or hearing impairments

Epilepsy or seizure disorders

Learning disabilities

Psychiatric disabilities

Orthopedic impairments

Speech disorders

Traumatic brain injury

What are the procedures for determining and implementing academic accommodations?

1. The student self-identifies to the Office of Accommodations and Accessibility and requests accommodations.
2. The student submits current documentation of the disability. Documentation must be from a qualified professional with the credentials to assess the disability. The documentation must provide guidelines for appropriate accommodations.
3. The student meets with a staff member of the Office of Accommodations and Accessibility to discuss eligibility and individual accommodations.
4. The student self-advocates with their instructors and is given an accommodation letter to provide to their instructors. The student and instructor will coordinate services, as needed, with the Office of Accommodations and Accessibility.

What accommodations are available?

Accommodations are determined on an individual, case-by-case basis to meet the needs of each student, and may vary depending upon the disability and/or course content. They include, but are not limited to:

Textbooks in alternate format

Scribes

Notetakers

Testing accommodations

Readers

Use of assistive technology

The Office of Accommodations and Accessibility also provides academic, personal, and career counseling, as well as assistance with course selection, registration, and advocacy on an as-needed basis.

All documentation regarding disabilities is confidential.