



# *Academic Accommodations Services*

## *Office of Integrity & Compliance*

# Mission Statement

To provide reasonable accommodations to qualified students with disabilities in the academic environment to enable them to enjoy equal access to academic programs, services, or activities. Through partnerships with students, faculty, and staff, we promote a student's independence and recognition of their ability, not disability.

# The Law

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 requires public institutions to provide **qualified students with a disability** with **appropriate** academic adjustments and auxiliary aids and services that are **necessary** to afford the student an equal opportunity to participate in a school's programs and activities. Accommodations do not include adjustments or aids or services that would result in a **fundamental alteration** of a school's program or impose an undue burden.



# Defining Qualified Student With a Disability

**Qualified:** Able to meet the technical standards of the program with or without an accommodation

**Disability:** Physical or mental impairment that substantially limits a major life activity

# What is an Accommodation?

- An **appropriate** accommodation is one that is “reasonable:”
  - Does not fundamentally alter the nature of the program;
  - Does not cause undue burden
  - Does not pose risk of harm to others
- A **necessary** accommodation is an adjustment, aid, or service that enables the student to have an equal opportunity to participate in their program or activity.
- “Accommodation” may be used to describe an alteration of environment, a change in curriculum format, or assistive equipment that allows a student with a disability to access course content and/or complete assigned tasks in as similar manner as possible to their peers.

# Requesting Accommodations

- Review the [Students with Disabilities Accommodation Procedures](#)
- Complete an online request: [Apply for Academic Accommodation \(kumc.edu\)](#)
- Schedule a meeting with Academic Accommodation Services (AAS) to review request
- Engage in the interactive process and subsequent communications
- For assistance or questions contact Alizabeth Ballard  
aballard2@kumc.edu or ada-kumc@kumc.edu

# Interactive Process

- AAS will evaluate each application individually
- AAS and student will engage in a timely, good faith, interactive process to determine effective reasonable accommodations that provide equitable opportunities to participate in educational programs
- During interactive process, AAS and the student will discuss the student's ability to meet the technical standards of their program with or without a reasonable accommodation
- Determining reasonable accommodations is done in partnership with the student, the AAS Coordinator, ADA Director, SAL, and Departments



# Approved Accommodations

AAS will issue notice letters to instructors of record informing them of approved accommodations

Faculty will be responsible for implementing the accommodation and coordinating with the ADA Testing Coordinator or others, as needed, to providing testing materials, equipment, etc.

Following the initial approval for an accommodation, the student must submit a renewal application each semester to continue the approved accommodation





# Grievance Procedures

If a student is not satisfied with any decision by the University involving academic adjustments or effective communication, or otherwise believes they have been denied a reasonable accommodation or discriminated against on the basis of disability, they may file a complaint with the Office of Civil Rights and Title IX



# Resources

[Viewing Students with Disabilities Policy \(policystat.com\)](#)

[Viewing Pregnancy and Childbirth Accommodation Policy for Students \(policystat.com\)](#)

[Counseling and Education Support Services](#)

[Office of Civil Rights and Title IX](#)

# Contact Information

## **Elizabeth Ballard**

Coordinator for Academic Accommodations for Students

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913-945-7035

Location: Room 1040 Dykes Library

<https://www.kumc.edu/academic-accommodations>

## **Millicent Odhiambo**

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