

## **VI. STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

### **Wabash College Policy Relating to Documentation and Accommodation**

Wabash College responds to the needs of students with disabilities as outlined in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (PL 93-616) and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (PL 101-336). The College will provide persons with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs and services as afforded to other individuals. This is done in the most integrated setting appropriate to the needs of the individual with a disability. Students with a disability are encouraged to inform Heather Thrush, the Associate Dean for Student Engagement and Success/Accessibility Services Coordinator (Armory), of their disability. However, to respect the student's right to confidentiality, the student's instructor(s) and relevant College staff will be notified of the student's disability only after he has given written permission for this information to be shared.

Documentation of the disability must be on file with the Accessibility Services Office (Armory) before an accommodation will be recommended. To apply for accommodations, please login to the Student Health Portal on the [Student Health Center](#) website. Once logged into the Student Health Portal, click the Accommodations tab, fill out the application, and upload your documentation to the bottom of the second page.

- An individual with a physical disability will provide documentation from a medical professional such as a physician, physical therapist, occupational therapist, ophthalmologist, optometrist, or audiologist.
- An individual with a condition affecting emotional or psychological functioning will provide documentation from an appropriately licensed psychologist or psychiatrist.
- An individual with a learning disability will provide documentation from a licensed psychologist, physician, or other specialist. The documentation can include a psycho-educational evaluation. Documentation must clearly state that a learning disability exists. As presently used in the literature, a "learning difference" or a "learning problem" does not constitute a learning disability. Once appropriate documentation is received, necessary academic accommodation will be determined.
- The student has the responsibility of deciding whether they will request accommodation. If they choose accommodations, then the instructor(s) for the course(s) for which accommodations are requested will be notified. The student is encouraged to communicate with his instructor(s) or relevant staff about his disability as early in the semester as possible. Accommodations are not retroactive.
- Each accommodation request must be assessed individually, and the person with a disability must be an active participant in the assessment process.

- In the assessment process, any available diagnostic information, the student's past experiences, and recommendations from the student's instructors will be considered.
- Appropriate accommodations may include but are not limited to the following: relocating class to an accessible room; removing structural barriers; providing interpreters and note takers; using assistive technology such as closed captioning and text-to-voice computers; providing text in large print; allowing lectures to be taped; extending testing time; using a different testing format; reducing course load and providing alternative testing sites.
- If the requested accommodation is a course substitution/waiver for a requirement, the request will be forwarded to the Curriculum Appeals Committee.
- It is not appropriate for the instructor(s) to determine that no accommodation is needed without consultation with the Accessibility Services Coordinator.

In the event that a student with a documented disability is not satisfied with a recommended accommodation, he is encouraged to work with the Accessibility Service Coordinator and his instructor to resolve the matter informally. However, if the student has remaining issues of concern, he may contact the Dean of Students.