What is Disability Support Services?
Disability Support Services is the campus office responsible for helping students and faculty determine and provide appropriate academic accommodations for students with disabilities in order to promote their retention and graduation. DSS is committed to assisting students with disabilities in achieving equal access to academic programs and facilities at CSU, Chico through academic support services, technology, and advocacy.

Who is eligible for services?
Support services are available to students with certified visual limitations, hearing and communication impairments, learning disabilities, mobility, and other functional limitations. Appropriate professional or medical verification of disability should be submitted directly to the DSS office. Additionally, students with temporary disabilities may also register with DSS.

What kinds of accommodations are available?
- Priority registration
- Note takers
- Readers
- Lab assistants
- Extended exam time
- Taking exams in low distraction environment
- Sign language interpreters
- Transcription
- Assistive technology
- Text in alternative format
- Learning disability assessment
- Liaison with faculty and administration
- On-campus mobility assistance

What other services are available?
Students with disabilities are encouraged to participate in other campus learning assistance programs, including the Assistive Technology Center (ATC), study skills development, Supplemental Instruction (SI), and tutoring at the Student Learning Center (SLC), Math Lab, and Writing Center. Students are also encouraged to consult community agencies for services outside the scope of DSS, including attendant care, mobility training, and rehabilitation services.

What about confidentiality?
Student participation in DSS is confidential. Requests for accommodations are made by the student or an advisor, but only with student permission. DSS records are maintained separately from University records and participation in DSS is not noted on transcripts.

How do I connect with DSS?
It is the student’s responsibility to request accommodations from DSS. Students with disabilities are not required to register with DSS, but are strongly encouraged to do so. Generally, a more effective and coordinated set of accommodations is available to those who are registered with DSS. It is recommended that prospective students, whether first time freshmen, or transfer students, contact DSS as early as possible after you have been accepted to Chico State.

The Policy and the Law:
CSU Policy for Provision of Accommodations and Support Services to Students with Disabilities prohibits unlawful discrimination against students on the basis of disability in CSU programs, services and activities, in accordance with, but not limited to, Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Both laws guarantee equitable access to and opportunity for an education without fundamentally altering the essential requirements and expectations of a class or programs. However, there are no provisions under Section 504 or the ADA for differential grading or modifying the fundamental requirements of a class or programs. The law requires the student to assume responsibility for providing documentation of their disability, identifying needed accommodations and making timely requests for support and services.

Instruction (SI), and tutoring at the Student Learning Center (SLC), Math Lab, and Writing Center. Students are also encouraged to consult community agencies for services outside the scope of DSS, including attendant care, mobility training, and rehabilitation services.

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