Donna Korbel
Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs
Director, Center for Students with Disabilities

Kim McKeown
Assistant Director, Center for Students with Disabilities
Civil Rights Legislation

• Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

• Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990

• Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA)

• Under the law, the University must identify an entity to respond to requests for accommodations; UConn has vested that responsibility and authority to the CSD.

• Under the law, it is the University’s responsibility to provide reasonable accommodations in order to afford students an equal opportunity to participate in the institution’s programs, activities and services.
CSD’s Mission & Philosophy

Through the integration of teaching, research, and service, it is the mission of the University of Connecticut to provide an outstanding educational experience for each student. The mission of the Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) is to enhance this experience for students with disabilities. **Our goal is to ensure a comprehensively accessible University experience where individuals with disabilities have the same access to programs, opportunities and activities as all others.** The Center is also committed to promoting access and awareness as a resource to all members of the community.

While complying with the letter of the law, the CSD also embraces its spirit by providing services to all students with permanent or temporary injuries and conditions to ensure that all University programs and activities are accessible. The Center can assist students to maximize their potential while helping them develop and maintain independence. Our philosophy is one that promotes self-awareness, self-determination, and self-advocacy in a comprehensively accessible environment.
Center for Students with Disabilities

• The Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) provides accommodations and services to qualified students with both permanent and temporary conditions.

• Requests for accommodations are reviewed on an individualized, case-by-case basis in order to determine reasonable and appropriate accommodations based on the functional limitations of the condition(s).

• In addition to the main campus at Storrs, accommodations and services are also provided to students at the five regional campuses, the Schools of Social Work and Law, as well as the medical and dental schools.
Students Served by CSD

2011-2012: 1213
2012-2013: 1396
2013-2014: 1652
2014-2015: 1872
2015-2016: 2437
2016-2017: 3451
Fall 2017: 3600

Fall 2017: 1044
Students Served by Disability Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Fall 2017</th>
<th>% Inc AY16-17</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder</td>
<td>815</td>
<td>-1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autism Spectrum Disorder</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronic Health Conditions</td>
<td>1444</td>
<td>13.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deaf or Hard of Hearing</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>12.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning &amp; Cognitive Disorders</td>
<td>454</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neurological Disorders</td>
<td>403</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Disabilities</td>
<td>284</td>
<td>-1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychiatric Disabilities</td>
<td>1413</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual Disabilities</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>-22.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students may have multiple diagnoses.

Fall 2017 data
Types of Accommodations

- Academic Adjustments
- Alternate Media
- Testing Accommodations
- Peer Notetaking
- Technology-based Notetaking
- Assistive Technology
- Assistive Communication
- Priority Registration
- Reduced Course load
- Residential Accommodations
- Dining Accommodations
- Accessible Transportation & Parking Accommodations
Accommodations Coordinated
Fall 2017

- Notetaking Assistance
  - 1138 approved
  - 752 classes
  - 590 note takers hired & 75 smart pens loaned out

- Testing Accommodations
  - 2262 approved
  - 4202 exams proctored
  - 68 subjects & 425 classes

- Academic Adjustments (Occasional absences, extended time on assignments, course substitutions)
  - 1191 approved

- Housing Accommodations (Meal plans, single rooms, compatible roommate, AV)
  - 2003 approved
Determining Disability

• An individual with a disability is defined by the ADA as:
  • a person who has a physical or mental impairment
  • a person who has a record (or past history) of such an impairment, or
  • a person who is regarded as having such an impairment.
• The impairment must substantially limit one or more major life activities
• Major life activities including: eating, sleeping, speaking, walking, reading, learning, interacting with others, communication, concentrating.
• ADA Amendments Act specifically mandates that the definition disability should be interpreted broadly and the determination of whether a person has a disability should not demand extensive analysis.
Documentation

• Guidance regarding documentation about a disability is provided by the US Department of Justice and the Office of Civil Rights within the US Department of Education.

• Documentation guidelines can be found on the CSD website at: https://csd.uconn.edu/documentation-guidelines/
Reasonable Accommodations

• Reasonable accommodations are academic adjustments, modifications and/or auxiliary aids and services made to elements of a student’s postsecondary program that help to compensate for the student’s impairment(s) and provide equal access to students with disabilities.

• Accommodations are not merely student preferences; rather they are determined through an established interactive process between the student and the CSD based upon documentation received regarding the functional limitations resulting from a student’s disability.
UConn’s Responsibilities

• Maintain the University’s academic standards.

• Identify who will respond to requests for accommodations.

• Provide reasonable accommodations in order to afford students an equal opportunity to participate in the institution’s programs, activities and services.
CSD’s Responsibilities

- Respond to student requests for accommodations through an individualized interactive process.
- Determine if a student is considered an individual with a disability.
- Determine reasonable and appropriate accommodations.
- Notify students and their faculty of approved academic accommodations.
- Notify students and Res Life, Dining, Transportation of approved accommodations.
- Assist students and faculty in coordinating approved accommodations.
- Maintain privacy of records and communication concerning students with disabilities.
- Inform students of University procedures for filing a formal grievance.
Faculty Responsibilities

• Provide approved accommodations specific to the course, either personally, through a TA, or by making arrangements with the CSD.
• Inform teaching professionals, such as TA’s, instructing all or part of a course of CSD approved accommodations for the student as indicated.
• Discuss with the CSD any concerns related to approved accommodation(s),
• Refer a student requesting accommodations to the CSD if formal notification has not been received regarding accommodations from the CSD.
• Assure the privacy of information regarding students with disabilities.
Student Responsibilities

- Meet the University’s qualifications and essential technical, academic, and institutional standards, including the Student Code of Conduct.
- Identify oneself as an individual with a disability to the Center for Students with Disabilities when seeking an accommodation. Procedures for registering with the CSD can be found on the Center’s website at: www.csd.uconn.edu/request-accommodations/
- Provide documentation from oneself and/or an appropriate professional source as indicated that verifies the nature of the disability, functional limitations, and the need for specific accommodations.
- Participate in an interactive process with CSD staff, faculty, and other University resources as indicated to obtain and coordinate reasonable and appropriate accommodations, academic adjustments, policy modifications, and/or auxiliary aids and services.
Academic Concerns Regarding Accommodations

• Faculty part in interactive process

• Contact student’s Disability Service Provider (name in accommodations letter)

• Faculty Procedures for Raising Concerns Regarding Approved Academic Accommodations
  (https://csd.uconn.edu/rights-and-responsibilities-2/)
Recent OCR Complaints

- Complaint filed regarding faculty
- Complaint filed regarding TA
- Complaint filed regarding University’s website
CSD Training & Communication

- CSD website
- Daily Digest Posts (Mandated)
- TA Training (Mandated)
- Department-wide Training (By Invitation)
- Compliance Training (Mandated)
- Accommodation Letters (Mandated)
- MyAccess