

SASC Frequently Asked Questions RE: COVID-19
for students that need to attend classes IN PERSON for remainder of Spring 2020

Students may provide medical documentation for temporary disability accommodations by contacting the Student Ability Success Center by emailing sascinfo@sdsu.edu. After an expedited review of the student's medical documentation SASC will provide an accommodation letter for students to share with their instructors in order to work out the best accommodations for their courses. Students will not be penalized in any way if they request academic accommodations.

Q: What does SASC consider a verifiable disability?

A: The legal definition of a disability is a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities (such as moving, breathing, thinking, taking care of oneself, etc.). Examples of persons with immunocompromised conditions include those with HIV/AIDS, cancer patients who require immunosuppressive medication, and those with inherited disease that affect the immune system.

Q: What kind of documentation do I need to submit? Is a letter from my doctor okay?

A: Yes. In most cases, a letter from your doctor will be necessary and should include a formal diagnosis and establish the connection between your disability and the accommodations you are requesting. The provider's letter should be on letterhead, should include his/her license number and credentials, and must be signed by the provider (or an office representative).

Q: How long will it take to review my documentation?

A: Our goal is to review documentation for COVID-19-related requests within two business days. This could change depending on the volume of requests received.

Q: What do I do once I get my letter from SASC?

A: Accommodation letters will be sent to your SDSU email address in PDF format. Present your letter to your professors and discuss your requests for COVID-19-related accommodations.

Q: Are my instructors required to excuse me from class if I have a letter from SASC?

A: Your instructors (and the University generally) must provide *reasonable accommodations* to students with disabilities. Disability accommodations are intended to help minimize the impact of those disabilities and allow the student to access the curriculum, programs and services of the University. However, accommodations should not fundamentally alter the nature of an academic course or the institution's policies, and do not place an undue hardship on the institution. Your letter will open a dialog with your professor about potential modifications of class policies and procedures based on your disability. Our office can assist in this process if one or both parties requests it.

Q: Do I qualify for temporary accommodations if I have a cold or the flu?

A: Possibly, it depends on the verifiable severity of your illness. The legal definition of a disability is a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities (such as moving, breathing, thinking, taking care of oneself, etc.). You will need to present evidence that your illness has a significant impact on your ability to function.

Q: How will I take my exams?

A: For any required missed exams, the Test Accommodation Center (HTC) will work with you and your instructor to find an available time to take your exam at our facility. Be sure to first finalize your accommodations with your professor before attempting to schedule an exam..