

St. John's College Policies and Procedures

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SYSTEM: HSHS	MANUAL(S): HSHS St. John's College Policies
TITLE: Student Accommodations Policy	ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: St. John's College
EFFECTIVE DATE: 08/01/2024	REVISION DATE(S):
SUPERCEDES: Local ministry handbooks/catalogs/policies adopted prior to the effective date of this	

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Purpose:

This policy and its corresponding procedure establish the overall structure and guidance for student accommodations at St. John's College following all applicable state and federal laws.

Policy:

Students have a right to:

An equal opportunity to learn, work, and receive reasonable accommodations, academic adjustments, and/or auxiliary aids and services. Access to services that may be needed for equal access to courses, programs, services, jobs, activities, and facilities offered by the College.

Students, faculty, staff, and campus visitors are encouraged to identify potential accessibility issues or concerns regarding programs, services, and activities at St. John's College and bring them to the attention of the Dean of Students.

Definitions

The following definitions are used in this policy and its corresponding procedure:

An Individual with a Disability:

- 1. Any person who has a physical or mental impairment which materially limits one or more of the person's major life activities.
- Any person who has a record of such impairment which means that a person has a history of or has been classified as having a mental or physical impairment that materially limits one or more major life activities.

Qualified Individual with a Disability: An individual who, with or without reasonable modifications to rules, policies, or practices or the provision of auxiliary aids, meets the **essential eligibility requirements** for receipt of services or participation in the College.

Essential Eligibility Requirements Include, but are not limited to, academic and technical standards requisite to admission or participation in an education program or activity.



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Personal Devices: Personal devices may include individually prescribed devices, such as prescription eyeglasses or hearing aids; readers for personal use or study.

Reasonable Accommodations: The College shall make reasonable accommodations to ensure access to programs, services, and activities as required by law. Access means that a qualified individual with a disability will not be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the programs, services, or activities, nor will the individual be subjected to discrimination.

Reasonable accommodations may include modifications to:

- 1. Rules, policies, or practices
- 2. The removal of architectural, communication, or transportation barriers
- 3. Provision of auxiliary aids or the provision of equally effective programs, services, or activities.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, accommodations will not be provided:

- For personal devices or services even though the individual may be a qualified individual with a disability, or
- 2. That result in a fundamental alteration in the nature of a service, program, or activity or
- 3. In undue financial or administrative burdens.

Determining Reasonable Accommodations for Students

St. John's College Student Accommodations Procedure establishes the College's processes for determining reasonable accommodations for students.

Accessibility Standards Used by the College

St. John's College commits to adhere to the following accessibility standards:

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

The <u>ADA</u> prohibits discrimination based on disability and mandates equitable and timely access to programs, services, and activities for individuals with disabilities.

Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act

In 1998, Congress amended the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to require Federal agencies to make their electronic and information technology (EIT) accessible to people with disabilities. Inaccessible technology interferes with the ability to obtain and use information quickly and easily. Section 508 was enacted to eliminate barriers in information technology, open new opportunities for people with disabilities, and encourage the development of technologies that will help achieve these goals.

Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 Level AA

<u>Web Content Accessibility Guidelines ("WCAG")</u> refers to standards for web content accessibility that have been developed by the World Wide Web Consortium ("W3C"). State entities must adhere to WCAG version 2.1 Level AA according to the Minnesota State Accessibility Standard.