



Accessible Education Services

Willamette University, 900 State St, Salem, Oregon 97301

Telephone 503-370-6737 | Fax 503-370-6647

Supporting Students with Temporary Disabilities

University life is unpredictable. Students may require temporary accommodations due to a short-term disability such as a broken bone, complicated pregnancy, or physical impairment resulting from surgery. Temporary health conditions are not commonly regarded as disabilities and Instructors and students can often work together to minimize classroom barriers without Accessible Education Services (AES) involvement. We invite you to consult with us as needed for additional guidance.

When is it important to contact AES?

We invite students and instructors to consult with us any time about disability-related concerns.

It may be necessary to contact us when:

- You are having difficulty communicating your needs.
- The ability to participate in academics is significantly disrupted.
- There are concerns about confidentiality.

We can also assist in the process of:

- Exploring or providing reasonable accommodations.
- Requesting classroom furniture or relocating your class.

Access is everyone's everyday work.

Please review suggestions for both students and instructors to understand a range of possibilities.

What can students do?

Students who need temporary accommodations can:

- Speak with instructors right away to develop a plan.
- Consider barriers in classrooms, labs, studio or physical education classes.
- Explore a reduced course load and/or discuss incompletes with your instructors.
- Discuss the impact of schedule changes on financial aid with the Financial Aid office.
- Speak with your advisor to plan next steps and learn about the process for withdrawal and leave of absence.
- Contact Housing and Residential Life for on-campus housing modifications.
- Discuss workplace accommodations with your supervisor.

What can instructors do?

Instructors can take steps to informally accommodate students with short-term disabilities.

- Provide time extensions for exams or assignments.
- Allow students to record lectures if taking notes is difficult.
- Share your notes or PowerPoint presentations, or ask students to serve as peer note takers.
- Provide lab assistance as needed.
- Consider the essential elements of your course and whether alternate forms of participation and access to course content are possible and reasonable: