Access Program
Faculty Workshop
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Procedure

- All colleges are required to have a procedure for students with disabilities to request services.
- At Tri-C, that procedure is to refer students to the Access Office.
- Services and accommodations are individualized based on documented disability and functional limitations.
Procedure

- At the post secondary level, students must self identify.

- The College’s obligation begins when the student makes the request for services to an employee of the College.

- The correct response is to refer the student to the Access Office.
Procedure

- The student must schedule an intake appointment with an Access Advisor and provide current documentation of disability.

- An accommodation letter will be issued to the student if indicated.

- The student is advised to give the letter to faculty in private at the beginning of each term and to discuss their accommodations.
Shared Responsibility

- Accommodating students with disabilities in higher education is a shared responsibility.

- Faculty and administrators, students and disability services staff must work together to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities who request support.
Landmark Disability Legislation
Rehabilitation Act of 1973

- **Section 504** provides protection of the rights of those with disabilities in education

- No otherwise qualified individual with a disability shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination

- Applies to any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance
A qualified person is defined as one who meets the academic and technical standards requisite to admission or participation in the institution’s programs and activities.

A disability is defined as “a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more . . . major life activities,” including learning.
Reasonable accommodations must be made by the college to insure maximal participation by such students.

An accommodation is an adjustment in an academic program to allow a person with a disability to compete equally with non-disabled persons.
Under the provisions of Section 504, Colleges and Universities may not:

- Limit the number of students with disabilities admitted.
- Make preadmission inquiries regarding whether or not an applicant is disabled.
- Exclude a student from a course of study.
- Counsel a student with a disability toward a more restrictive career.
Colleges and Universities may be required to:

- Extend the time permitted for a student with a disability to earn a degree.
- Modify teaching methods and examinations to meet the needs of students with disabilities.
- Develop course substitutions or waivers for students with disabilities.
- Provide auxiliary aids, such as audio recorders, computers, spelling aids, etc., for students with disabilities.
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law in July 1990 and provides civil rights protections for people with disabilities similar to those provided on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin and religion under the Civil Rights Act of 1964.
Americans with Disabilities Act

The ADA thus effectively broadened the scope of 504, while not replacing or invalidating it, allowing people with disabilities equal participation in mainstream American society.
Areas of society affected by the ADA include employment, public accommodations, government services, transportation, and telecommunications.

Schools are considered to be public accommodations and must provide full and equal enjoyment of the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages.
Access Program
Students with Disabilities
Services

Mandated

- Accommodations
  - alternative testing, class notes, books in useable format, sign language interpreters

- Assistive technology
  - Available on all student computers or by request

- Accessibility
  - physical, computers, programs and services
Services

Not provided

- Proctoring for homework
- Personal attendants
- Personal equipment
- Tutoring
Confidentiality

- All matters related to disability are confidential
- No implied consent in disability law
- Help student maintain confidentiality
- Talk with them in private area outside class
Accommodation Assistance

Include statement in syllabus:

- If you need accommodations due to a disability, if you have emergency medical information to share, or if you will need assistance in the event of an evacuation, please discuss this with me in private or contact the Access Office.
Accommodation Assistance

- Allow audio recording of lectures
- Obtain videos with captioning, if needed
- Ensure online/web sites are accessible
  - Accessibility check list online
  - Training through Insight
- Contact Access Office for assistance if needed
A service animal is a working animal, not a pet.

Regulations under Title III of the ADA, define a service animal as:

Any dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability.

Other species of animals, whether wild or domestic, trained or untrained, are not considered service animals under Title III of the ADA.
What types of information can a place of public accommodation request regarding a person's disability and his or her need for the use of a service animal?

A place of public accommodation cannot require a person with a service animal to produce documentation.

A place of public accommodation may not make these inquiries about a service animal when it is readily apparent that an animal is trained to do work or tasks for an individual with a disability; for example, a dog is observed guiding an individual who is blind or has low vision, pulling a person's wheelchair, or providing assistance with stability or balance to a person with a mobility disability.

If the above are not explicit a person may make two inquiries to determine whether an animal qualifies as a service animal:

- Is the animal required because of a disability?
- What work or task has the animal been trained to perform?
Service Animals-Possible Removal

- Can a place of public accommodation ask an individual with a disability to remove a service animal from the premises?

- Yes, but **only** if the animal is out of control and the animal's handler does not take effective action to control it or if the animal is not housebroken.