

To ensure students with disabilities receive equal access to the University of Maryland

The Disability Support Service (DSS) first began assisting students in 1976. Since then, our mission has been to provide and coordinate services to accommodate students, faculty, staff and campus visitors who have disabilities. In all its activities, DSS seeks to establish and maintain a balance of rights and responsibilities amongst the students, our staff members, and the University.

Since it was established in 1976, the DSS office has grown to support over 1700 individuals. Accommodations and services continue to evolve to meet the changing needs of these individuals.

DSS strives to provide fair accommodations and to facilitate an agreeable working relationship between those with disabilities and the University. If you require accommodations due to a disability, you are strongly encouraged to contact our office or make an appointment to discuss the issue. We welcome any comments or concerns you have regarding DSS.

This brochure is designed to answer basic questions about DSS. If you have additional questions or comments regarding accommodations or services, please contact DSS at 301.314.7682 (Voice/TTY), or Fax 301.405.0813.

Disability Support Service

Jo Ann Hutchinson, Rh.D.
Director

University of Maryland
4281 Chapel Lane
0106 Shoemaker
College Park, MD 20742

Please visit our website
www.counseling.umd.edu/DSS

301.314.7682

Voice/TTY

301.405.0813 Fax

Dissup@umd.edu

Mon – Fri

8:30 am to 4:30 pm

**Deaf & Hard of Hearing
DHHS**

(For Interpreting Services)

301.314.7209



Disability Support Service

Division of the
Counseling Center



The **Disability Support Service**,
located in the
Counseling Center,
was established to ensure that the
University of Maryland is
knowledgeable about and in
compliance with legal requirements
for equal access to programs as cited
in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation
Act of 1973 and the Americans with
Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990.

Who is eligible for services?

Any student, faculty member, or staff person at the University of Maryland with a documented disability is eligible for services once they make themselves known to DSS. Typically, individuals with medical or psychiatric conditions will be asked to provide documentation from a physician. Individuals with learning disabilities, attention deficit disorder, or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder will be asked to provide a full psycho-educational evaluation. DSS does not provide psycho-educational or neuropsychological evaluations, but can refer students to area providers for this service.

How do I register for services?

You should schedule an initial interview with a DSS staff member as soon as possible. Documentation of your specific disability must be provided at the time of the initial interview. The initial interview consists of a review of the documentation, discussion of your personal needs, and the determination of reasonable and appropriate accommodations. *Please note that this information is not transferred from the Office of Admissions.*

Who conducts the initial interview?

Initial interviews and any future meetings to seek amendments to accommodations are conducted by the Director of DSS, Jo Ann Hutchinson, Rh.D. or another DSS Counselor.

What services are available?

Receiving an accommodation or service is based on the nature of the disability and the documentation presented. The need for services is determined during an initial interview, and may include:

TESTING Accommodations

- Extended Exam Time
- Private Space
- Testing Readers &/or Testing Scribes
- Computer Access for Exams

READING Accommodations

- Enlarged Print Texts
- Recording of Text Materials

DEAF & HARD OF HEARING SERVICES 301.314.7209

- Interpreting Services
- Captioning Services
- Assistive Listening Devices

ADAPTIVE TECHNOLOGY LAB 301.314.7958

- Located in McKeldin Library, Room 1103
- Equipped with hardware and software to facilitate access to information for individuals with disabilities.

ADDITIONAL Accommodations

- Priority Registration
- Note-taking
- Advocacy Support
- LD/ADD Coaching
- Para-transit Registration
- Lab/Library Assistance

More Counseling Center Services

- Learning Assistance Service

www.counseling.umd.edu/LAS
301.314.7693

How do I receive services once I have registered?

At the time of the initial interview, a thorough explanation of accommodations and services will be provided.

All policies regarding these services will be discussed, and informational handouts provided. If at anytime you have questions regarding the status of your services and accommodations, you are encouraged to call our offices. *Each semester students must update their accommodations.*