

MODIFICATIONS AND ACCOMMODATIONS

Accommodations	Modifications
<p>Supports given to help the student meet the whole class objective</p> <p>Change of environment, curriculum format, or resource that allow for a student to gain access to content and/or complete assigned tasks</p> <p>Accommodations do not adjust what is being taught or how you are assessed</p> <p>Examples: use of a word processor, use of scribe, extended time for tests, alternative location for testing, preferential seating in classroom</p>	<p>Only available for students who are auditing their classes</p> <p>Changing the work, objective in part of or all of the course content</p> <p>Should still allow for as much access to the course content as possible</p> <p>Example:</p> <p>Whole Clas Objective - Student will write a 20-page research paper using at least 5 course readings and 5 outside readings.</p> <p>Modified Objective - Using their assistive technology, student will create a PowerPoint on research topic using 2 course readings.</p>

Making Accommodations:

To request accommodations, students should follow their institution's established process, which often includes submitting documentation and completing an accommodations request form through the disability services office.

Making Modifications:

Students requiring modifications should work with faculty members, disability support staff, or academic advisors to determine appropriate changes that align with their learning needs while maintaining engagement with course content. The process for requesting modifications may vary by institution, but here are some recommended steps:

1. **Gather Course Information** – Obtain a copy of the syllabus, which outlines course goals, assignments, and expectations.

2. **Complete a Modification Request Form** – If your institution uses a formal request process, fill out a modification form for each course requiring adjustments.
3. **Consult with Faculty** – Meet with instructors to discuss possible modifications while ensuring the integrity of course content is maintained.
4. **Work with Support Staff** – Disability services offices or academic advisors can help refine modifications to align with institutional policies and learning outcomes.
5. **Participate as Fully as Possible** – Students should aim to engage with as much of the coursework as feasible while ensuring their learning needs are met.

Suggestions for Institutions to Establish a Modification Process

- **Develop a Clear Policy** – Universities should outline a transparent process for requesting modifications, including eligibility criteria and required documentation.
- **Create Standardized Forms** – Providing templates for modification requests can streamline the process for students and faculty.
- **Facilitate Faculty Training** – Instructors should receive guidance on how to implement modifications effectively while maintaining academic standards.
- **Offer Individualized Support** – Institutions may assign advisors or specialists to assist students in developing personalized modification plans.
- **Ensure Accessibility of Resources** – Modification request forms and guidance should be readily available online and through disability services offices.

Tips for Scheduling Modification Workshops

1. **Offer multiple sessions** – Ensure accessibility by scheduling workshops at various times and dates.
2. **Provide flexible attendance options** – Consider offering in-person and virtual sessions to accommodate different needs.
3. **Encourage collaboration** – Students can benefit from working with family members, mentors, or academic advisors to develop modifications.
4. **Review course syllabi in advance** – Understanding course objectives and requirements helps in planning appropriate modifications.
5. **Use structured templates** – Provide sample modification forms to streamline the process.
6. **Foster an open discussion** – Encourage students to ask questions and seek feedback from peers and facilitators.

By understanding the differences between accommodations and modifications and using strategic planning, students can receive the support they need while maximizing their learning experience.