SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
AT MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

Student Support Services
Web Site http://www.msstate.edu/dept/sss/index.php
Contact Dr. Debbie Baker 662-325-3335   TTY: 662-325-8513

Student Support Services is a federally funded program through the U.S. Department of Education - TRIO programs. This program is designed to provide academic support and instruction to low-income, first generation college students, and college students with disabilities who have academic needs and potential to succeed in higher education. Additionally, Student Support Services is responsible for housing documentation of all students with disabilities who identify themselves to the university and request accommodations.

The Office of Student Support Services, established in 1981 as a department within the Division of Student Affairs, provides supportive services for students who have an academic need and are low income, first generation or disabled in order to facilitate active participation in campus life. The type of services and accommodations provided depend on the needs of the individual student. In general, services include advocacy, priority registration, testing services. Specialized services such as wheelchair repair are available to those who need it. Student Support Services strives to provide opportunities that enable students with disabilities to take full advantage of their university experience and to function as independently as possible in the process. Student Support Services serves as the coordinating body for services, provided to students with disabilities by other divisions within the university, as well as by state rehabilitation agencies.

Located in 136 Etheredge Hall, Student Support Services' office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday.

Policy

It is the policy of Mississippi State University that students, seeking accommodations from the University on the basis of a disability, identify themselves to the Office of Student Support Services. Students must provide appropriate documentation of their disability to Student Support Services to verify eligibility under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Additional documentation guidelines for a Specific Learning Disability, Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) or Attention Deficit/ Hyperactivity Disorder (AD/HD), or a Psychiatric/Psychological Disorder may be obtained by contacting the Office of Student Support Services or on the web at http://www.msstate.edu/dept/audit/91130.html. Academic accommodations and services are based on assessment of the individual student's needs, the documentation provided and the specific request made by the student. All documentation is confidential and should be submitted to the director of Student Support Services.
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Admissions
Office of Admissions - http://www.msstate.edu/dept/admissions/
Enrollment Services - http://www.msstate.edu/dept/es/

Students with disabilities applying for admission to Mississippi State University are admitted under the same requirements as other applicants. Admission requirements are listed in the Bulletin of Mississippi State University, which can be obtained from the Mississippi State University Office of Enrollment Services, 112 Lee Hall, P.O. Box 6334, Mississippi State, MS 39762-6334, telephone (662) 325-3076.

Financial Aid and Scholarships
http://www.msstate.edu/dept/sfa/index.php

The university administers a full service student aid program through the Department of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships. Aid programs include National Direct Student Loan, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, Incentive Grants, Academic Scholarships, Regional Scholarships, and College Work-Study Program. Most students with disabilities are eligible for assistance from Vocational Rehabilitation and should contact their local vocational rehabilitation counselor. For additional information, contact the Department of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships Garner Hall P.O. Box 6035 Mississippi State, MS 39762-6035, 662-325-2450 or 662-325-3990.

New Student Orientation
Enrollment Services - http://www.msstate.edu/dept/es/

Prior to each semester, the Office of Enrollment Services offers orientation for new and transferring students. If you need special accommodations, you must notify them at the time you register for orientation. Campus tours are also offered through the Office of Enrollment Services from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday-Friday. It is recommended that you contact the Student Support Services office to make an appointment the same day.

Classroom and Testing Accommodations

Students in our program are offered a wide variety of services: time management, study skills, career exploration, counseling, and other services as needed to provide adjustment to and support for academic success. For students with disabilities, Student Support Services assists in determining the classroom accommodations that are most appropriate for their disability based on documentation of the disability. Student Support Services encourages communication with instructors regarding accommodations. Student Support Services can send notification letters regarding accommodation issues to faculty as needed. Examples of classroom accommodations are varied, but may include: notetakers, readers, adapted testing arrangements, extended time on tests, assistance with ordering recorded texts, and access to special equipment.
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For More Information

For additional information on Student Support Services at Mississippi State University, contact:

Dr. Debbie Baker, Director
Student Support Services
Mississippi State University
P.O. Box 806/ 136 Etheredge Hall
Mail Stop 9724
Mississippi State, MS 39762-0806
662-325-3335
662-325-8513  (TTY)
662-325-8190  (fax)

T.K. Martin Center for Technology and Disability
Web Site http://www.tkmartin.msstate.edu/
Contact Janie Cirlot-New 662-325-1028      TTY: 662-325-0520

The T.K. Martin Center is unique to Mississippi and the nation. The center has developed and implemented a comprehensive statewide program of assistive technology services for individuals with many types of disabilities. The center's location on the Mississippi State University campus is of great advantage. The services, staff, and resources of the center are convenient to students who attend the university.

Services through T.K. Martin Center are available to Mississippi State University students after an evaluation has been conducted. Referrals to the T.K. Martin Center can come from a variety of sources, including the Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services' Office of Vocational Rehabilitation or Office of Independent Living, private rehabilitation companies, or insurance companies. There is a cost for the evaluation, however, the center works with each referral to determine possible funding sources.

Services available through the T.K. Martin Center include:

· Adaptive Computer Access
· Augmentative and Alternative Communication
· Adaptive Driving Evaluations
· Vehicle Modification Consultations
· Assistive Technology for Visual Impairments
· Assistive Technology for Hearing Impairments
· Assistive Technology for Learning Disabilities
· Assistive Technology for Brain Trauma
· Seating and Mobility
· Job-site Modifications
· Home Modifications
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The T.K. Martin Center staff are experts on the issue of disability and its impact on individuals. The staff includes speech pathologists, rehabilitation engineers, occupational therapists, and a host of other specialists whose skills enable the center to respond to the needs of individuals ranging from the simplest to the most demanding and complex.

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Blindness & Low Vision
Web Site http://www.blind.msstate.edu
Contact Dr. Elton Moore: 662-325-2001  TTY: 662-325-8693

The center is the nation's only Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (RRTC) studying blindness and low vision. The center provides internship and practicum opportunities for students seeking careers in vision-related rehabilitation, as well as fellowships and scholarships for individuals with disabilities. An on-campus assistive technology and computer laboratory with Braille, speech and large print access is used in a number of classes taught through the center.

The Department of Housing and Residence Life
http://www.msstate.edu/dept/housing/index.php
Phone: 662-325-3555

The Department of Housing and Residence Life works closely with any student with a disability to ensure that his or her housing is adequate and meets the student's needs. A staff member of the Department of Housing and Residence Life meets with the prospective student along with a member from Student Support Services. These individuals discuss the student's need to have a residential setting that is suitable on campus. After plans have been made and needed renovations are completed, the room is made available to the student.

Currently, housing for students with disabilities is located primarily in residence halls, although one on-campus apartment that has been equipped for students disabilities. Some important points to consider while determining what housing is best for the student are location, ease of building accessibility, restroom accessibility and modifications necessary for certain electrical equipment.

The Department of Housing works closely with Student Support Services and the student to ensure that all the needs of the students are met. For more information about campus housing, contact the Department of Housing and Residence Life, P.O. 9502, Mississippi State, MS 39762-9502, telephone (662) 325-3555.

Transportation - Shuttle Buses
Phone: 662-325-8120

The university provides weekday shuttle service for students, faculty, and staff. A Shuttle service is also available on Saturday and picks up individuals at various locations on and off campus. The schedule is repetitive each hour. For schedule information, contact the transportation office.
Five of the eight university shuttle buses and one van have wheelchair lifts. In most cases when a student in a wheelchair is waiting at a shuttle stop, the shuttle driver will radio the transportation office to have the van pick up the student.

In addition, a university van (no lift available) goes to Jackson each weekday. For students with disabilities who require personal assistance, an attendant must accompany them. For current rates for the Jackson shuttle contact the transportation office.

**Mitchell Memorial Library**
Phone: 662-325-3060    TTY: 662-325-8183

All public entrances to Mitchell Memorial Library have ramps for accessibility, and restrooms with wheelchair accessibility are located on all floors. The new library addition is certified to ADA standards, and a TTY is accessible on the public pay phone.

Zoom text is available in the reference area, as well as carols with adjustable table height. The circulation department provides assistance with photocopying and will help locate and hold books for patrons. The Instructional Material Center provides an accessible workstation and a scanner to read materials.

**Longest Student Health Center**
http://www.msstate.edu/dept/health/
Phone: 662-325-7539    TTY: 662-325-8322

The health center provides an accessible table that lowers for easy transfer. Restrooms are handicap accessible and a TTY phone line is available to receive calls. Also, Braille signs are posted in the health center.

**Colvard Student Union**
http://www.msstate.edu/dept/union/index.php
Phone: 662-325-3342

The student union's elevator is equipped for wheelchair accessibility and a TTY is accessible on a public pay phone located on the lower level of the building.

**Perry Cafeteria (Dining Services)**
Phone: 662-325-2965

The cafeteria staff is trained and available to provide assistance with line services for students with disabilities. The cafeteria's central doors are wheelchair accessible, and two modified tables are located in the dining area. Also, restrooms are handicap accessible.

Shuttle service is available near the cafeteria, which boasts approved ADA standards since its 1996 renovation.
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Joe Frank Sanderson Center
Recreational Sports - http://www.recsports.msstate.edu/
Phone: 662-325-7529

The recreation center is accessible to students with disabilities. Facilities include private dressing and shower areas. A stack-weight machine and an upper-body machine in the weight room are designed for people who use wheelchairs, and the indoor swimming pool is accessible by a lift and a ramp.

Student Organizations

*The Disabled Student Affairs Committee of the Student Association is designed with the goal and objective to help students on campus with disabilities. Committee members work closely with Student Support Services and volunteers their time to assist with accommodated testing services, as well as help them with other needs. Also, the committee works to promote awareness to both students and faculty on the needs and concerns for those with disabilities. For more information contact the Student Association at 662-325-3917.

*United Students is a student organization that serves as an advocacy and support group. It members are comprised of students with and without disabilities. For more information contact Janice Thompson at 662-325-8513.

Other units on campus are available to assist students with disabilities. A student with a disability is encouraged to request the assistance they may need.

Mississippi State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability or veteran status.

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