

Title	Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities
Number	E1005
Category	Student Services

1. PURPOSE

- a) Langara College (the “College”) also known as snəwəyət leləm is committed to providing an accessible and inclusive academic environment for students with disabilities according to its obligations under British Columbia’s *Human Rights Code*.
- b) The College provides appropriate and reasonable academic accommodation to students with disabilities to eliminate, reduce, or mitigate barriers faced by that student in the educational setting. Academic accommodation facilitates the student’s opportunity for equitable access to, and full academic participation in, a course or program, which includes, but is not limited to, practicums, clinical settings, and other work-integrated learning settings. It does not give the student an advantage or guarantee the student’s academic success. Accommodation does not alter the essential requirements of a course or program.
- c) This policy articulates the responsibilities of students who seek academic accommodation as well as the shared responsibility of the College, guided by Accessibility Services, to collaborate and cooperate to facilitate equitable access to the College’s courses and programs by students with disabilities.

2. DEFINITIONS

Documentation – written verification of the diagnosed disability(ies), symptoms, functional limitation(s)/impact within the post-secondary environment for a student with a disability. Documentation must at minimum conform to Ministry requirements. The documentation must be current and must come from a Medical Professional.

Essential Requirement(s) – refers to the *bona fide* (“in good faith”) learning requirements or competency components of a course or program that must be acquired and demonstrated by a student and which cannot be altered without compromising the fundamental nature, academic standards, or integrity of the course or program.

Medical Professional – a qualified (certified/licensed) medical assessor (e.g., audiologist, ophthalmologist, neuropsychologist, neurologist, nurse practitioner, physician, psychologist, or psychiatrist registered to practice in the Canadian province or territory where the assessment is undertaken), and who has expertise in the diagnosis of the condition(s) for which the accommodation(s) and/or service(s) are being requested.

Ministry – the Ministry in the province of British Columbia responsible for post-secondary education.

Reasonable Academic Accommodation – refers to an alteration in the academic environment or an adaptation of teaching or evaluation methods to eliminate, reduce, or mitigate an access or participation barrier for students with disabilities. Academic accommodation does not include a fundamental change in the method of course delivery.

Reasonable academic accommodation will not:

- a) compromise the essential requirements of a course/program; or
- b) pose a threat to personal or public safety; or
- c) impose undue hardship on the College.

Student – is a person who is registered in full-time or part-time credit or non-credit courses offered by the College; or has formally applied to the College.

Student with a Disability – means a student who:

- a) has a diagnosed significant and persistent mobility, sensory, learning, or other physical or mental health impairment; and,
- b) experiences functional restrictions or limitations on their ability to perform the range of life's activities; and,
- c) experiences attitudinal and/or environmental barriers that hinders their full participation in College courses, programs, and activities.

Temporary Health Issues – are short-term health impairments, such as a brief illness (e.g., common cold, virus, etc.), temporary injury or surgeries, and/or other medical treatments that are unrelated to a disability and are likely to be substantially resolved in less than one semester.

3. POLICY

Scope

- 3.1 This policy applies to all students with disabilities and includes those who have formally applied to the College, who meet the admission, prerequisite, and academic requirements of the College, and who are seeking academic accommodation from the College.
- 3.2 This policy applies to students, College instructors, and employees who have a shared responsibility to academically accommodate students with disabilities.
- 3.3 This policy does not apply to students with disabilities who are seeking accommodations for student employment or other employment at the College.
- 3.4 This policy does not apply to students who are seeking accommodations for any reason other than a disability.
- 3.5 This policy does not apply to students who experience a temporary health issue that is unrelated to a disability. Students experiencing temporary health issues should seek special consideration from their instructors for an academic concession in accordance with the academic department's practice and procedures, and relevant College policies.

College Responsibilities

- 3.6 The College will provide reasonable academic accommodation to students with disabilities in the context of a course or program.
- 3.7 Accessibility Services is responsible for administering this policy and determining academic accommodations for students with disabilities.
- 3.8 College instructors and other employees are responsible for implementing academic accommodations, within the scope of this policy, and on the advice and support of Accessibility Services.
- 3.9 The College will advertise Accessibility Services information on the College website. The College will provide this information in an alternate format, if requested.
- 3.10 The College will provide information and guidance to employees on the policy, procedures, and guidelines related to supporting students with disabilities.
- 3.11 The College will handle personal information regarding students with disabilities in accordance with the *BC Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

Student Responsibilities

- 3.12 Students with a disability are required to self-identify and bring requests for academic accommodation or any changes in academic accommodation to the attention of Accessibility Services allowing reasonable time for a response (as set out in the Procedures).
- 3.13 Students with a disability are required to provide appropriate and necessary documentation of their disability to Accessibility Services.
- 3.14 Students with a disability are required to cooperate and participate in good faith in the academic accommodation process (as set out in the Procedures).
- 3.15 Students with academic accommodations are not relieved of their responsibility to fulfill essential requirements of a course or program.

4. RESPONSIBILITY

For inquiries relating to this policy, contact the Associate Vice-President, Students

5. REGULATIONS/PROCEDURES

Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities – Procedures

The British Columbia Human Rights Code

History/Revision

Origination Date	November 4, 2008 (as Services for Students with Disabilities)
Amendment Date	January 23, 2025
Next Review Date	January 23, 2029