

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR
LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY AT ALEXANDRIA

SUBJECT: POLICY FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

PURPOSE: To state the policy of Louisiana State University at Alexandria providing equal opportunity for all qualified persons without regard to disability in the recruitment of, admission to, participation in, or employment in, the programs and activities operated and sponsored by the University.

GENERAL POLICY

The University prohibits discrimination against persons with disabilities in academic or other programs, public services, and public accommodations. Additionally, the University is committed to promoting an atmosphere to end discrimination against individuals with disabilities, to bring persons with disabilities into the social and economic mainstream, and to provide enforceable standards to address discrimination against individuals with disabilities.

STUDENTS AND APPLICANTS FOR STUDENT STATUS

The University shall not discriminate on the basis of disability in any academic program or activity associated with the University and will integrate students with disabilities into the University community to the fullest extent possible. Qualified applicants with disabilities will not be denied admission or subjected to discrimination in admission or recruitment to the University on the basis of their disability. In its recruitment efforts, the University shall not limit the number of persons with disabilities who may be admitted. All admission criteria and testing will be selected, administered, and evaluated in a manner that is accessible and accurately reflects the applicant's ability rather than an individual's impaired sensory, manual, or speaking skills.

An applicant for admission may voluntarily self-identify as a person with a disability in the admissions process and will be routinely provided information on services available to students with disabilities. A decision not to self-identify will not result in adverse treatment of the applicant.

When a University representative receives a request for a disability related accommodation, advice and assistance should be sought from the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs and from the Coordinator of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Chancellor - Has final authority for all decisions regarding implementation of this policy.
2. Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs (or designee) - Coordinates all disability-related support services and provides accommodations for enrolled students with documented temporary and permanent disabilities. Provides information on services for students with disabilities to potential students and their families and serves as a campus resource for matters concerning persons with disabilities.
3. Executive Director of Facility Services - Provides technical support on matters involving University facilities and premises and is responsible for monitoring accessibility of University facilities and premises by persons who are disabled.
4. Coordinator of Americans with Disabilities Act - Responsible for continuing development, implementation and monitoring of equal opportunity programs, including Title V of the Rehabilitation Act of 1983 as amended and those Titles of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 that pertain to the University.
5. Special Needs Student - Responsible for providing appropriate documentation supporting the request for special accommodation and requesting the accommodation formally by contacting the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs or his designee.

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

1. Informal Resolution Issues concerning accommodation of persons with disabilities for participation in academic and other programs, activities, and services of the University should be expeditiously resolved between the person requesting the accommodation and the University employee representing the academic department within which the academic program or other program, activity, or service is located. If the person requesting an accommodation is not satisfied with the proposed accommodation, the person may file a formal grievance.
2. Formal Grievances The grievance may be filed directly with the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, who shall provide written procedures for a

prompt hearing of the grievance by the Coordinator for the Americans with Disabilities Act or designee. If the grievant is not satisfied with the response by the ADA Coordinator, the grievance may be referred for hearing by the Chancellor who shall constitute final University administrative action on the grievance.

RETALIATION

The University shall not discriminate against any individual for filing a charge of discrimination, opposing any practice or act made unlawful by the ADA, or for participating in any proceeding under the ADA. The University shall not coerce, intimidate, threaten, or interfere with any person in the exercise or enjoyment of his/her rights under the Act or because he or she aided or encouraged any other person in the exercise of enjoyment of rights under the ADA.

CONFIDENTIALITY

The University will request only such information about an individual's disability as is necessary for those University representatives making an accommodation decision to determine the need for and the manner in which the disability may reasonably be accommodated. Such accommodation may be disclosed only with the express written consent of the person requesting an accommodation on the basis of disability.

Source: Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and related federal and state law.

Document adapted from policy on disabilities of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.