Services for Students with Disabilities

Services for Students with Disabilities, located in Joseph P. Vona Academic Annex, Room 8, offers a range of support services to assist students with disabilities. These services include:

- Screening and referral for new or updated disability documentation
- Assistance with requests for academic adjustments
- Supplementary information assessment
- Advice to and consultation with faculty and staff
- Individualized assistance
- Assistance with environmental adaptation needs

Call 609-895-5492 for further assistance. Services for Students with Disabilities email: SERV4DSTU@Rider.edu

Policy for Assisting Students with Disabilities

Any Rider student who supplies the University with appropriate documentation of a disability is eligible on a case-by-case basis for reasonable accommodations, such as auxiliary aids, adjustments in academic examination time limits and locations, and various kinds of support services.

Students with disabilities should contact Services for Students with Disabilities in Joseph P. Vona Academic Annex, Room 8, at 609-895-5492.

In order to review and ultimately accommodate known and suspected disabilities, the University should be provided with documentation of the disability by an appropriate professional. Such documentation should include:

- A diagnostic statement identifying the disability;
- A description of the diagnostic criteria and/or diagnostic tests used;
- A description of the functional impact of the disability;
- Information regarding relevant treatments, medications, assistive devices and/or services currently prescribed;
- Recommendation for adjustments, adaptive devices, assistive devices, and support services;
- The credentials of the diagnosing professional.

Students without documentation who suspect a disability should contact Services for Students with Disabilities.
Only students with documented disabilities that interfere with their ability to meet the requirements of an academic course or program are entitled to reasonable accommodations, such as course adjustments and auxiliary aids. A reasonable accommodation is one that enables the disabled student to fulfill the essential requirements of the academic course or program; a reasonable accommodation does not waive or eliminate essential academic requirements. Services for Students with Disabilities evaluate disability documentation provided by the student, collect additional information from the student, and gather information from relevant educational support personnel, medical and psychological professionals, and other pertinent sources. When the student’s disability has been documented fully and potential reasonable accommodations have been identified, the student is encouraged to present the Notice of Academic Adjustments Form to individual faculty and discuss the adjustments with each professor. Faculty members may contact Services for Students with Disabilities at any time for clarification of the accommodation. A joint meeting of the appropriate university official(s), the faculty member, and the student will be held to resolve questions concerning the reasonableness of the proposed accommodations. The student, likewise, is entitled to initiate this procedure.

In the event that such a meeting among the appropriate university official, the faculty member, and the student does not resolve any open issue(s), a qualified university official designated by the provost will meet with them and assist in resolving the open issue(s). Where a curricular modification is requested, that official normally will be the relevant dean, who will decide the reasonableness of the request in close consultation with the affected faculty member(s) and appropriate University official(s).

The policy is designed to ensure the University’s compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act and the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination, and to enable every Rider student with a disability to enjoy an equal opportunity to achieve her/his full potential while attending this University. Because no policy can anticipate every possible student request, Rider reserves the right to vary this policy under appropriate circumstances on a case-by-case basis.