



Special Populations/Disabilities FAQs

Q. What is Special Populations at CCCC?

A. Special Populations is the name CCCC gave our Disability Services Office. The Office was established in 1994 to facilitate provision of reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities.

Q. How do I know if I qualify for services from the Special Populations Office?

A. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 states that "no otherwise qualified handicapped individual in the United States, as defined in section 706(6) of this title, shall, solely by reason of his handicap, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance." The definition of "handicapped individual", according to Section 504, is anyone with a physical or mental impairment that substantially impairs or restricts one or more major life activities, such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning and working.

Q. I have a disability, how can I receive services from the Special Populations Office?

A Students with a disability must register with our office and provide documentation of their disability. The student is responsible to provide additional information or clarification if requested by the director. Each student will meet with the director to discuss the accommodations needed, and together with the director decide on the appropriate accommodation for the student. Your instructors will then be notified of the accommodations needed in each class. Please contact the director David C. Oates at (919)718-7273 or (800) 682-8353 ext 7273 or by [email](#) and ask for a Special Populations packet with releases and other important information to identify and register with our office.

Q. I qualified for Social Security Disability. Therefore will I qualify for Special Populations services?

A. Not necessarily, you must provide documentation that establishes a substantial impairment that interferes with one or more major life activities to be eligible for services under The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and or Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Q. What are the requirements for documentation of my disability?

A. It is illegal for an institution to inquire about disability prior to admission. In postsecondary education, it is the responsibility of the student to identify him/herself to the Special Populations Office should he/she need any kind of accommodation. Students will generally not receive accommodations until their documentation of disability is on file in the Special Populations Office. Acceptable documentation of disability includes: medical reports, physician's statements, psychological evaluation, or psycho-educational evaluation. This list is not meant to be totally

inclusive but establishes the tone of accepted documentation. Please follow up with the director for more clarification on documentation and a Special Populations packet. .

Q. What is a reasonable accommodation?

A. Reasonable accommodations are changes/adjustments in the learning environment that permit students with disabilities to compete on equal footing with their peers at the college. The accommodations modify non-essential elements of college programs. Accommodations are determined based on an individual basis, using documentation of a disability. The purpose of an accommodation is to minimize the impact of the disability, not to “water down” a course or requirements. To do otherwise would decrease the credibility of the institution and would be unfair to the student. Examples of reasonable accommodation include:

- Extended time on test
- Sign language interpreters
- Enlarged text
- FM sound amplification systems

Q. Will the college provide me with a personal care assistant?

A. The college does not provide personal care services, i.e. pushing wheelchairs, restroom assistance, feeding assistance.

Q. I received accommodations in high school does that mean I will receive the same accommodations in college?

A. No, post secondary schools have different requirements than high schools. Please read the following US Department of - +Education Office of Civil Rights pamphlet.