



# The Office of Student Disability Services (SDS)

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Student Disability Services  
Faculty Presentation

# Disability Services in Higher Education

WHY???

- Disability Offices on college campuses across the United States have established themselves as integral parts of campus life for the past 3 decades thanks to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
- Providing accommodations is the LAW!



## SDS Services and Accommodations

- The SDS Office is responsible for coordination and provision of academic accommodations for any student with a disability who requests such services
- Faculty are an important part of this process especially for:
  - Exam accommodations
  - Allowing for the accommodations to be implemented in the classroom
  - Communicating with the SDS Office

# The Accommodation Letter

- Every semester students registered with our office complete a request form to initiate the SDS Office to reach out to faculty with the accommodation information
- There is no deadline on requesting accommodations
- These letters are confidential and not to be shared with anyone else except the student in private and the SDS Office when questions arise
- Accommodations are intended to be “reasonable” and any accommodation that does not allow for the attainment of the learning outcomes of the class can be discussed with the SDS Office





## Exam Accommodations

- Most students registered with the SDS Office receive extra time on their exams
- Some students want to take their exams in the class while some need to be able to take the exams in a less distracting environment
- Exam accommodations cannot happen without the partnership of the faculty:
  - Provide exams to the SDS Office when requested
  - Provide all information needed to administer these exams as per your instructions
  - Advocacy support



# Conclusion

- The SDS Office is responsible for engaging with every student who reaches out to our office to engage in an interactive process to develop accommodations. Nothing is ever set in stone and all accommodations are up for discussion. Please reach out to our office with any concerns or questions about students with disabilities.
- Contact us at:
  - Phone: 718-960-8441
  - Email:  
[Gabriella.kohler@lehman.cuny.edu](mailto:Gabriella.kohler@lehman.cuny.edu)  
[disability.services@lehman.cuny.edu](mailto:disability.services@lehman.cuny.edu)