

Disclaimer

THIS DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES HANDBOOK (“HANDBOOK”) IS SIMPLY A STATEMENT OF SEATTLE PACIFIC UNIVERSITY’S GENERAL POLICIES, AND SHALL NOT BE CONSTRUED AS AN EXPRESS OR IMPLIED CONTRACT OR A PROMISE OF SPECIFIC TREATMENT TO ANY PERSON.

SEATTLE PACIFIC UNIVERSITY (“UNIVERSITY”) RESERVES THE RIGHT TO MODIFY, SUPPLEMENT, AMEND, RESCIND OR REPLACE THIS HANDBOOK AT ANY TIME, WITH OR WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

Why we have a Disability Support Services Handbook

Purpose of These General Guidelines and Procedures: This Disability Support Services Handbook is designed to assist students, faculty and staff by providing general policies and procedures regarding equal access and reasonable academic adjustments for students with disabilities, to the extent required by applicable laws and regulations.

Mission Statement: Disability Support Services (“DSS”) seeks to provide educational access through support, resources, advocacy, collaboration and academic accommodations for students with disabilities accepted to the University.

Federal Law and Regulations Pertinent to Disability Support Services

The University complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (“Section 504”) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Section 504 states that:

No otherwise qualified individual with a disability in the United States . . . shall, solely by reason of her or his disability, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination in any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance

29 U.S.C. Section 794(a).

A disabled person means “any person who (i) has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities, (ii) has a record of such an impairment, or (iii) is regarded as having such an impairment.” 34 CFR Section 104.3(j)(1). Major life activities “means functions such as caring for one’s self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning and working.” 34 CFR Section 104.3(j)(2)(ii).

This Handbook deals primarily with academic adjustments. The University has an obligation to

make such modifications to its academic requirements as are necessary to ensure that such requirements do not discriminate or have the effect of discriminating, on the basis of handicap, against a qualified handicapped applicant or student. Academic requirements that the [University] can demonstrate are essential to the instruction being pursued by such student or to any directly related licensing requirement will not be regarded as discriminatory within the meaning of [the regulations].

34 CFR Section 104.44(a).