

A GUIDE TO COLLEGE ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

Academic accommodations give students with disabilities and other conditions an equal opportunity to participate in college. The accommodations that college students receive help them to complete all course requirements. For example, a student with a learning disability may find it hard to listen and take notes at the same time. A volunteer notetaker or access to the professor's notes or PowerPoint slides could help that student to participate in the course more fully. Accommodations do not change course requirements, but they help students to meet course requirements.

UNDERSTANDING THE ACCOMMODATIONS PROCESS

The process for accommodations at Briercrest College involves the student, the professor, and the Director of Student Success (DSS).

1. BCA students needing academic accommodations for their college classes must submit documentation of disability to the DSS. This can be a medical note, a record of adaptations from BCA, or a psycho-educational report. You or your parents (depending on your age) can sign a release form to have your records sent to the DSS.
2. The DSS will email you a link to complete an online registration form. The form will outline student responsibilities and ask about accommodations you had in high school. After you complete the form, you will be given a link to book an appointment with the DSS.
3. During the meeting, the DSS will talk about your documentation and your learning experiences. Based on this conversation, she will approve accommodations that you should be given in your classes if they are appropriate.
4. The DSS sends out letters to professors at the start of every semester. Each professor receives a list of students and their approved academic accommodations. Students are highly encouraged to meet with their professors at the start of the semester to talk about what their approved accommodations might look like in that class. As every class is structured differently, accommodations might not always look the same. The DSS can also help if there are questions.

Disabilities as defined by the *Saskatchewan Human Rights Code* include such things as:

- physical disabilities
- blindness or visual impediments
- deafness or hearing impediments
- muteness or speech impediments
- intellectual disabilities or impairments
- learning disabilities or dysfunctions
- mental health conditions
- chronic health conditions
- temporary disabilities (traumatic brain injury, broken limb, etc.)

For more information, visit https://mybriercrest.ca/resourcecentre/academic_accommodations/ or email Erin Gordon, Director of Student Success (egordon@briercrest.ca).