



Academic Access: Information for Student Veterans

DO YOU:

- Struggle to take notes while listening to a lecture?
- Have difficulty finishing tests in the time given?
- Read textbooks for hours with low comprehension?
- Know your test grades do not reflect your level of knowledge?
- Forget to complete or turn-in assignments on time?
- Feel like you are always behind despite your best efforts?
- Regret how you treat others when you are frustrated?
- Worried you are going to fail classes?
- Often find it hard to concentrate in class or while studying?

A small sample of personal issues that may qualify for services and accommodations: migraines; Crohn's; diabetes; cancer; PTSD; ADHD; high school history of slow reading, poor spelling or math struggles; depression; anxiety; insomnia; hearing or vision impairments; long-term reductions in physical strength or endurance, chronic feelings of irritability.

Virginia Tech Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD)

- SSD serves all students, from freshmen to graduate students.
- All services are confidential and provided at no charge.
- SSD welcomes the opportunity to meet with students individually to problem-solve personal and environmental issues that may interfere with full access to academics, and/or hinder academic performance.
- SSD also serves as a resource for referrals to other services, both on and off campus, related to a student's needs.
- SSD determines the presence of a disability and grants appropriate and reasonable accommodations to qualified students.
- SSD is veteran friendly.



WHAT IS “ACADEMIC ACCESS”?

Academic access means equal access to classroom lectures, notes and textbook material. Because every individual learns differently, some students find they cannot absorb or comprehend instructional material in a traditional way. SSD provides services such as alternate text (access to accessible reading material), notetakers, and extra time on tests for qualified students who are not currently experiencing equal access because of a disability.

WHERE DO I START?

Contact the SSD office, at 540-231-3788 or ssd@vt.edu, to schedule an appointment with an SSD coordinator. Please bring any professional information you have, such as an IEP or 504 plan, or medical documentation. This would be helpful, but is not required for the first appointment.

WHAT IS THE TIMELINE?

It depends. SSD evaluates each person’s situation before developing a recommended plan of action. So, the entire process might take a few days, or several weeks.

NEVER TOO LATE

Think back to elementary, middle and high school. Did you struggle with math, reading, focusing? Fifty-percent (50%) of students registered with SSD began receiving services as upper classmen or graduate students, after they recognized that their academic performance did not reflect their aptitude and effort.

ACADEMIC OPTIONS INCLUDE:

- Extra time on tests in a quiet room
- Notetaker
- Use of a calculator
- Scribe or reader for tests
- Use of spellcheck
- Enlarged print
- Taping lectures
- Alternate text format (to listen to textbooks)

Other Virginia Tech resources include:

Office of the University Registrar
540-231-6252
veteran@vt.edu

Dean of Students Office
540-231-3787
dean.students@vt.edu

Cook Counseling Center
540-231-6557
www.ucc.vt.edu

Veterans at Virginia Tech
<http://www.veterans.vt.edu/>

Links and Available Resources for Virginia Tech Veterans
www.veterans.vt.edu/Dependents/Resources/index.html

Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) - Veteran Friendly

310 Lavery Hall
540-231-3788

ssd@vt.edu
www.ssd.vt.edu