

New Faculty Orientation: Supporting Students with Disabilities

Presentation by:

Kesha Lee, M.A.

Director of Student Support Services



Purpose of the Office of Student Support Services (SSS)

- Determine and provide **reasonable accommodations** and services for all students with documented disabilities
 - Determine a student's eligibility for services
 - Determine and assist with implementation of services
- Ensure all policies and procedures allow for **accessibility**
- Assist in maintaining **physical compliance** to all university facilities
- Work **collaboratively** with Academic Affairs, Academic Support, Counseling Center, Residential Life, Campus Police and other offices

Mission Statement

The Mission of the Office of Student Support Services (SSS) is to make opportunities for educational, cultural, social and other modes of development at NCCU accessible to students with **documented** disabilities.



Who should visit the Office of Student Support Services?

- If a student has a documented disability and would like to receive accommodations at the University
- If a student had an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or 504 Plan in High school
- If a student feels they may need resources on campus or in the community to support them at NCCU



US Statistics

- Estimated that 12% of population has a disability (ages 5 +)
- Estimated that 30% of people employed have a disability
- On average approximately 15% of population between the ages of 21-64 have a disability
- **10%** of college students have a disability

Statistics were taken from:

US Census Bureau: factfinder.census.gov

Disability Statistics: ilr.cornell.edu



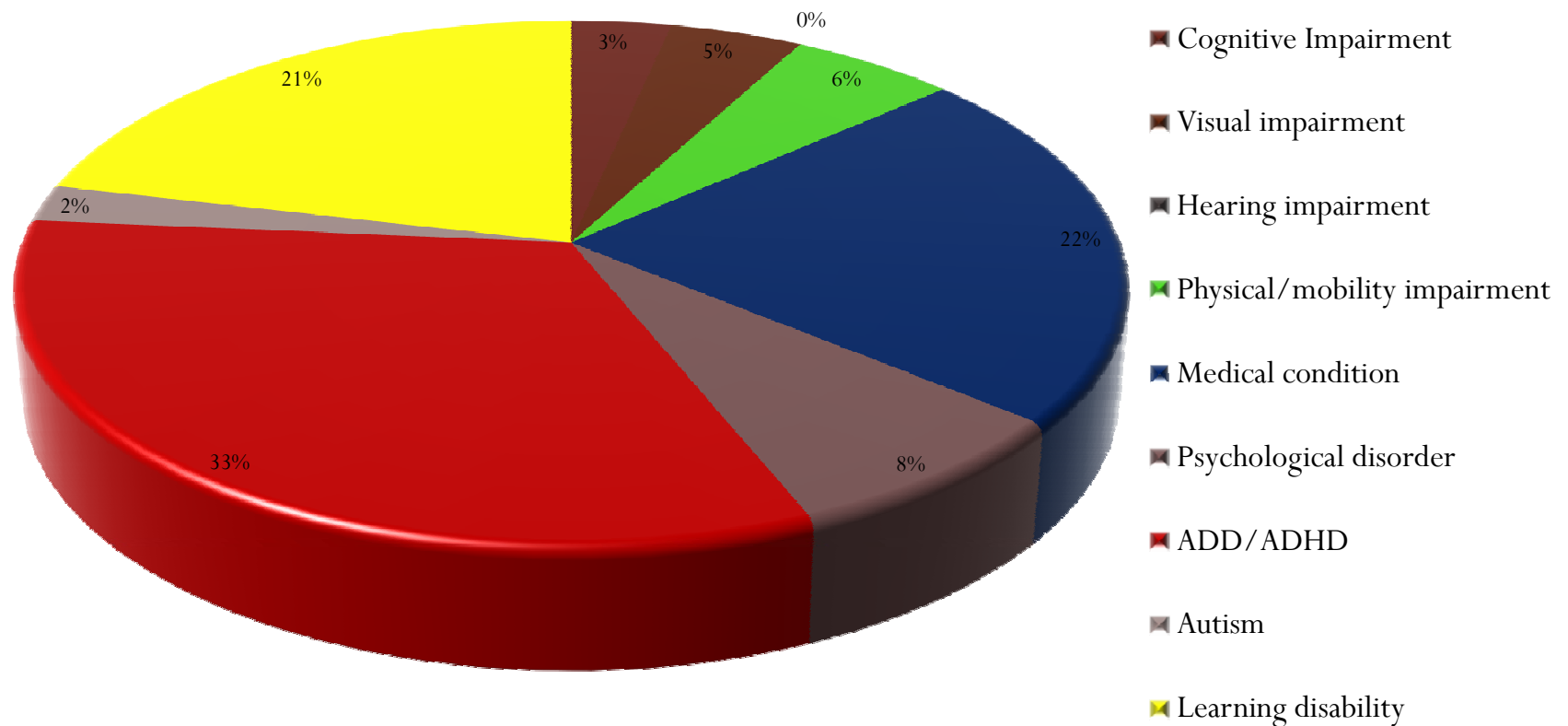
Disability Categories

Disability Categories are:

- cognitive impairments
- visual impairments
- hearing impairments
- physical/mobility impairment
- learning disabilities
- chronic medical
- psychological/psychiatric
- traumatic brain injury
- AD/HD



Percentages of Disability Categories- Registered Students at NCCU (Spring 2009)

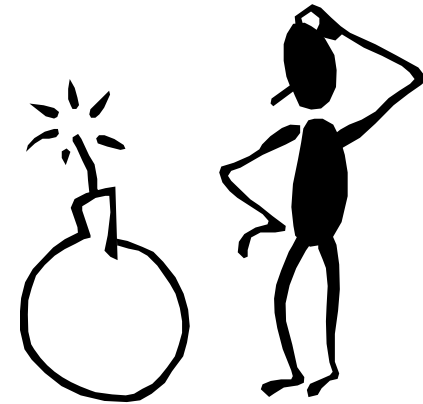


Responsibilities: Higher Ed vs Secondary in the US

Responsibilities

- **High School**

- Identify students with disabilities
- Provide a free and appropriate education
- Modify educational programs as needed



- **Post Secondary**

- Inform students of office location and procedures for requesting accommodations
- Accept and evaluate documentation
- Protect student's privacy and confidentiality
- **Provide equal access to programs and services**

It's all about ACCESS



ALL Programs, Courses and Facilities

The Law

- **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA):**

Defines an individual with a disability as a person who

- has a physical or mental impairment
- has a record of such an impairment
- is regarded as having such as impairment



It also prohibits discrimination on the basis of a disability in public entities, such as schools and businesses

The Law cont.

- **Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973**
 - This federal law is designed to protect the rights of individuals with disabilities in programs and activities that receive federal funds.
 - The law also states that “no otherwise qualified individual with a disability in the United States shall solely by reason of disability be denied the benefits of, be excluded from the participation in, or be subject to discrimination”



What is an “accommodation”

- An **accommodation** allows a student to complete the same assignment or test as other students, but with a change in the timing, formatting, setting, scheduling, response and/or presentation
- It does not alter in any significant way what the test or assignment measures
- They are in place to “level the playing field”

Accommodations:

Classroom Accommodations:

- Access to teacher handouts, slides and overheads
- Additional time on-in class assignments
- Interpreter for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Student
- Note-takers
- Absences due to medical condition
- Preferential Seating
- Recorded Lectures
- Classrooms must be accessible for students with disabilities. In some cases, if a room can not be modified, the class may need to be relocated

Accommodations:

Testing Accommodations:

- Additional time when taking quizzes and exams
- Alternative testing environment (if needed)
- Assistive Technology on exams
- Computer for tests
- Scribe



Services/Resources Available

- Eligibility is determined after a review of required documentation that supports the students disability, which is determined on a case-by-case basis
- *Services available through the Office of SSS:
 - Interpreter services
 - Campus orientation/mobility
 - Referrals for Adaptive transportation
 - Referrals for Tutoring and Counseling
 - Adaptive Software/ Assistive Technology
 - Alternative Testing Methods
 - Referrals for Adapted Physical Education
 - Consultation to students and faculty

*This list is not exhaustive



The Accommodations Process/ Student Responsibilities

- **Student** request accommodations each semester
- **Student** and Director reviews documentation and determines appropriate accommodations
- Office of SSS creates a letter for **student** to give to each professor and assist with implementation of accommodations
- **Student** submits letter to faculty member and discusses accommodations 1:1 during office hours
- **Student** notifies faculty member before each test they wish to utilize accommodations (if determined appropriate)
- Faculty helps **student** to implement accommodations
- Office of SSS is available to consult at any time regarding accommodations...the KEY word is **STUDENT**

Faculty Responsibilities

- **Make sure that each course, viewed in its entirety, is accessible (e.g. content, texts and materials, assessment method, on-line instruction, time requirements)**
- **Support and implement reasonable accommodations (modifications) as identified in a letter from Office of SSS and presented by the student**
- **Consult with Office of SSS if requests conflicts with course objectives/requirements**
- **Maintain confidentiality**

Faculty Responsibilities

- **Submit book lists to bookstore early**
- **Order DVDs and VHS with captioning**
- **Assist with providing testing accommodations**
- **Provide print materials in electronic format**

Faculty Responsibilities

Include the following statement on your course syllabus:

Student Support Services for Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with a disability (physical, psychological or learning disability) and want to request accommodations, you will need to register with the Office of Student Support Services in Suite G20 in the Student Services Building or by contacting Kesha Lee, Director, at 530-6325 or klee@nccu.edu. If you are already registered in the office, you will need to return to the office **each semester** to update your information.

COPY of Statement Provided

Contact Information

Office of Student Support Services

Kesha T. Lee, Director

Suite G20 Student Services Building

1801 Fayetteville Street

Durham, NC

(919) 530-6325 (Office)

klee@nccu.edu (email)

Questions???



Vision Statement

NCCU supports students with disAbilities and believes ALL eagles can soar!

