



Policy Title

Curriculum Accommodations

Identifier

UofSCSOMG – ACAF – 5.00

Prepared by: Office for Academic Affairs	
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LCME Standards

10.5 – Technical Standards

Scope

University of South Carolina (UofSC) School of Medicine Greenville students, faculty, and staff

Policy Statement

It is the policy of UofSC School of Medicine Greenville to provide reasonable accommodations or academic adjustments as necessary for students with disabilities. Approved accommodations will be made in a timely manner and on an individualized and flexible basis consistent with written documentation establishing that the individual is an individual with a qualified disability.

Reason for Policy

UofSC School of Medicine Greenville has an ethical and legal responsibility to provide equal opportunities for medical students with disabilities. This policy exists to provide medical students who have a documented disability with equal opportunity to participate in all aspects of each module/clerkship.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) require colleges and universities to provide reasonable accommodations to meet the needs of students who have disabilities. Recent revisions to these laws by the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 that took effect on January 1, 2009, are bringing renewed attention to this issue and may result in more students qualifying as students who have disabilities and therefore requesting accommodations. It is important that faculty and staff understand their roles in the accommodation process and treat any disability related information as confidential.

Procedures

Standard Accommodations

Students wishing to request accommodations must apply for approval through the UofSC Student Disability Resource Center (SDRC).

1. Students are required to apply for accommodation(s) approval at the start of each academic year for which they would like to receive accommodations.
2. Accommodation applications can be found on the SDRC webpage here: https://www.sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/student_disability_resource_center/register_with_us/index.php.
3. Once accommodations are approved by the SDRC, the Office for Student Affairs at the UofSC School of Medicine Greenville must be notified in writing of said approval(s). Accommodations will only be provided when written documentation is received from the UofSC Student Disability Resource Center unless temporary accommodations have been granted by the UofSC School of Medicine Greenville Office for Student Affairs. The Associate Dean for Student Affairs, when indicated, will advise the Director of Assessment for accommodations needed in the testing environment. Students should show their letter of accommodation to faculty for in-class accommodations that have been approved by SDRC. Students receiving accommodations through the UofSC SDRC will receive accommodations for National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) examinations that contribute to the final grade of a module, clerkship, or course; however, students will not receive accommodations for a NBME examination that does not contribute to the final grade of a module, clerkship or course. Given the timing and structure of OSAT and perishable materials used for anatomy practicals, accommodations are not available for these examinations. Additional time is not available for OSCEs but other accommodations may be taken into account in certain circumstances.

Temporary Accommodations

Students may need to request temporary accommodations and must gain approval through the Office of Student Affairs. Temporary accommodations are defined as alterations needing to be made to class or exam proctoring that would not run the length of the entire academic year.

1. Once accommodation recommendations are made based of a discussion between the requesting student and the Office for Student Affairs
2. Once approved, the Office of Student Affairs then notifies the Director of Assessment to apply temporary accommodations for a set period of time. Extensions can be made but would require an additional discussion with the Office for Student Affairs.

Accommodations for USMLE

The Office for Student Affairs will assist students in applying to the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) for permission to take the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) under nonstandard conditions. Applications must be submitted for each Step exam. Students should submit their application approximately 6 months before their anticipated exam date. Due to the timing of approval by the NBME, students who wish to apply for USMLE accommodations may take the fall Comprehensive Basic Science Examinations (CBSE) exam with accommodations provided by UofSC. Students with approved accommodations by the NBME for Step 1 will receive the NBME approved accommodations for the spring CBSE and subsequent Comprehensive Clinical Sciences Examinations (CCSE).

Technical Standards

The UofSC School of Medicine Greenville, through the Student Evaluation and Promotion Committee (SEPC), retains the right to request additional information, including test results and diagnostic information from a qualified professional, concerning accommodations that extend beyond the following: extended time for written exams, a separate room for exams, and/or a note taker. Students receiving accommodations will be held to the same [technical standards for graduation](#) as other students.

Resources

Should the UofSC School of Medicine Greenville determine that educational testing is needed, the Office for Student Affairs will facilitate the appropriate screening and any further testing needed at no cost to the student. The student can then use the results of said screening to apply for official accommodations from the UofSC Student Disability Resource Center.

Sanctions

N/A

Additional Contacts

[University of South Carolina Student Disability Resource Center](#)

Office for Student Affairs

Office for Academic Affairs

Related Information

UofSC – STAF – 6.02 Support Services and Accommodations for Students with Diagnosed Disabilities

UofSCSOMG – STAF – 2.00 Equal Educational Opportunity and Student Anti-Discrimination

[UofSCSOMG Technical Standards for Admission, Retention and Graduation](#)

History

Date of Change	Change
Jun 2022	Clarified procedures and timing for applying for Step 1 accommodations and allowable accommodations for CBSE.
Oct 2021	Allowable accommodations adjusted for OSCE, OSAT, and anatomy practical exams.
June 2019	Clarified procedures and timing on requesting accommodations. Editorial changes made due to branding updates and titles
July 2018	Policy formalized into standardized template, LCME CQI