

STUDENT AFFAIRS OP 91.121: Students with Disabilities

Date: September 8, 2006

Purpose

To ensure equal opportunities for academically qualified students with disabilities.

Policy

Mississippi State University is committed to providing equal educational opportunities to all students and assisting students in making their college experiences successful and positive. Recognizing that at times generalized student services are inadequate for meeting the unique needs of students with disabilities, and to comply with federal and state laws, regulations, and guidelines, the university has established Student Support Services to provide supportive services for its students with disabilities.

Procedure

1. Services

The Director of Student Support Services is responsible for providing specialized services that assist students with disabilities as they adapt the university's generalized services to their own needs. Staff of Student Support Services serve as counselors between, and advocates for, the students registered with Student Support Services and other members of the campus community. Services facilitated by Student Support Services include:

- a. Admission: Providing information for prospective students and arranging pre-admission visits.
- b. Orientation: Supplementing the generalized Freshman Orientation Program in order to address special concerns.
- c. Academic: Providing information and accommodations regarding specialized study techniques and learning aids, and serving as an advocate to instructional staff.
- d. Advocacy: Works with campus offices and outside agencies to provide other services as required.

Because each individual has a unique set of abilities and limitations, Student Support Services supplies different services for each student. While the university's intent is to integrate every student as completely as possible into regular student life activities, it is the student's responsibility to make his or her needs known to Student Support Services.

2. Housing

A number of residence halls have been modified for residential living for students with disabilities.

3. Campus Accessibility

The university continually works toward a barrier-free campus. Street curbs are beveled, buildings are ramped, and classes, when notified, are scheduled in an accessible location.

Review

The Vice President for Student Affairs is responsible for the review of this operating policy every four years or as needed.

**DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS
OPERATING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

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REVIEWED BY:

/s/ William Kibler
Vice President for Student Affairs

09-08-06
Date

/s/ Don Zant
Director, Internal Audit

09-08-06
Date

/s/ Charles Guest
General Counsel

09-12-06
Date

APPROVED BY:

/s/ William Kibler
Vice President for Student Affairs

09-19-06
Date

/s/ Robert H. Foglesong
President

10-02-06
Date