



Attendance and Deadline Adjustment Accommodation

Santa Barbara City College makes every reasonable effort to accommodate individuals with disabilities as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Students with chronic health related conditions that are episodic in nature and periodically worsen or “flare up” may experience legitimate barriers to attending class and meeting deadlines. In ensuring equal access, DSPS engages in an interactive process to determine which students require course adjustments such as additional absences and extended time to complete in-class assignments, take-home assignments, papers/essays or lab reports.

ADA does not require that the instructor substantially alter the nature of the program or activity. In some cases, faculty may determine that students can master course content despite some or many absences. In other instances, attendance is fundamental to course objectives; for example, students may be required to interact with others in the class or to participate in group projects.

This accommodation does not entitle the student to submit all assignments after established deadlines. Nor does it apply in the case of student time management issues or work overload. In most cases, the accommodation is not retroactive. If student absences and extensions become excessive, the student should be advised on their ability to pass the course, based on the instructor’s professional judgment.

It is the student’s responsibility to inform their instructor prior to an absence or assignment’s due date, or as soon as possible thereafter, when requesting an adjustment. The student and/or instructor may contact DSPS for assistance in establishing a reasonable agreement. Note that students are not required to disclose the nature of their disability or submit medical documentation to instructors in order to use this accommodation. DSPS is responsible for validating and protecting this confidential student information.

See Board Policy and Administrative Procedure 5070 for additional information.