

Services for Students with Disabilities

The Harvard School of Dental Medicine is committed to providing students with appropriate support and services to ensure that they have an inclusive and welcoming learning environment. Harvard Medical School and Harvard School of Dental Medicine Office of Disability Services complies with the <u>Americans with Disabilities Amendment Act (ADAA)</u> and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 in providing services to students with disabilities. Tim Rogers (<u>Timothy Rogers@hms.harvard.edu</u>) serves as the Director of the Office of Disability Services for students at the Harvard School of Dental Medicine. In order to receive accommodations, students need to contact the Office of Disability Services to formally request services and support.

Determination of reasonable accommodations are made on an individualized basis, through an interactive process with the student. Students are required to submit current clinical documentation completed by the appropriately licensed professional. This information must include the student's name, a diagnosis, and detail the functional limitations of their disability. This documentation should also outline the professional's recommended accommodations. Categories of disability include but are not limited to sensory (hearing, vision, etc.), mobility, learning, systemic/chronic health, psychiatric, and attentional challenges. Please note that obtaining documentation from a licensed professional can take time and, therefore, students should plan accordingly. Last-minute submission of documentation may result in delays in accommodation provision.

The Office of Disability Services works to maintain privacy; however, information on functional limitations and accommodations may be shared internally on a need-to-know basis. Documentation and any additional diagnostic material is maintained in confidence within the HMS/HSDM Office of Disability Services. This material is only released to external third parties in keeping with state and federal law.

The Office of Disability Services' process of providing accommodations is not necessarily reflective of the process for receiving testing accommodations on the National Board Exams or any Regional Board Exams. Students are responsible for seeking their own desired accommodations for these exams.

Please contact Tim Rogers, <u>Timothy Rogers@hms.harvard.edu</u> in the Office of Disability Services as soon as possible begin the process of registering with this office.