



"It's not the disability that defines you: its how you deal with the challenges the disability presents you with. We have an obligation to the abilities we DO have, not the disability." - Jim Abbott

Contact Information

Erin Kourafas, M.Ed
Disability Services
Coordinator

Disability Services Office
Montserrat College of Art
Office 206

248 Cabot Street
Beverley, MA 01915

Phone: 978.921.4242 Ex
1277

Fax: 978.922.4268
(attn:Erin Kourafas)

Disability Services at Montserrat College of Art



Transitioning to College

Unlike high school, college students need to self disclose their disability. In the past all of your academic teachers were notified by a special educator, and not by you.

- Sometimes college students don't want to self identify, as having a disability for fear that it will make them "stand out." However, at Montserrat College of Art students utilize their accommodations without any of their peers ever knowing!

Confidentiality

The information that students share with the Disability Services Office remains **confidential** with the following exceptions:

- Student signs a release of information, which authorizes the sharing of information with professors or other appropriate personnel.
- There is a risk of imminent harm to self or other
- Otherwise, **NO** one knows unless you tell them!

Documentation and Registration

When a student registers with the Disability Services Office s/he must provide written documentation of a disability from a physician or mental health professional with whom s/he works most closely with. The student will then meet with the Disability Coordinator to customize reasonable and appropriate accommodations.

- Students should register at the disability office at the beginning of a semester.
- However, if a student encounters medical or psychological difficulty during the course, which warrants accommodations, s/he should also make an appointment to speak with disability services.
- Documentation and information regarding a disability does not become part of a student's academic record.
- To make an appointment email or call the number listed in this brochure.

Accommodations

Once accommodations are determined, a letter is sent to each of the student's professors indicating the reasonable accommodations for the semester.

- Students must meet with the disability services coordinator at the start of each semester to review accommodations and receive a new notification letter.
- It is the **student's responsibility** to give adequate notice to both the professor and disability services in advance of the requested accommodations so that there is enough time to be able to provide the accommodation.

Accommodations might include, but are not limited to:

- Housing accommodations
- Extended time on tests
- Separate test setting
- Electronic textbooks
- Note takers

