

## Disabled Student Services

Student Affairs

Henry Madden Library, Room 1047

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# Disabled Student Services



*Michael Januse listens to an audio tape of his textbook.*

California State University, Fresno is committed to meeting the spirit and letter of the Americans with Disabilities Act and other legislation calling for full inclusion of persons with disabilities.

Disabled Student Services takes a personal interest in meeting the special needs of students with disabilities. Students who have temporary or permanent disabilities that may affect academic functioning may be eligible for a variety of support services.

Disabled Student Services is located in the Henry Madden Library, Room 1047. This facility contains the administrative staff as well as a variety of assistive equipment and facilities.

**Who Is Served.** Disabled Student Services (DSS) provides specialized resources that help students with physical, perceptual, and learning disabilities to achieve maximum independence while pursuing educational goals.

Students should visit the Disabled Students Office to initiate a request

for services. Be prepared to provide appropriate verification of disability at that time.

**Campus Access.** DSS Staff specialists work with all areas of the university to reduce or eliminate physical, academic, and attitudinal barriers.

Fresno State is one of the more accessible university communities in California. The climate is moderate and the flat terrain poses few mobility obstacles.

The campus has made significant strides to reduce and eliminate structural obstacles. Elevators are provided, allowing access to all instructional areas above the ground floor. Accessible restrooms, drinking fountains, telephones, and TDDs (Telephone Devices for the Deaf) are provided across the campus. Portable science laboratory stations and other specialized academic equipment are available for students who use wheelchairs. Blue curb parking, campus access maps, wheelchair loans, and other aids are also available.

Swimming, weight training, and other physical fitness activities are

available through the individualized adaptive kinesiology program.

**Services Provided.** Academic support services available to students with physical, perceptual, and learning disabilities include: readers, scribes, ASL (American Sign Language) interpreters, audio-taped textbooks, and testing facilities. Also available is a wide variety of adaptive equipment devices including print enlargers, speech input and voice output computers, Braille printers, and other specialized equipment to assist students with disabilities.

Additionally, students with documented disabilities may be provided with disability management advising, which emphasizes personal growth and development, as well as independence and self-advocacy. Other services provided may include career exploration and campus-to-career skills building.

**Priority Registration.** Students with verified disabilities may be afforded priority registration privileges to facilitate class scheduling.

**Student Responsibility.** It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for services from DSS and to provide appropriate verification of disability. The student is also responsible for personal accommodations such as attendant care, transportation to and from the campus, and other personal services not directly related to academic coursework. DSS staff will assist students who need to contact campus, state, and community agencies that provide such services.

Independence for students with disabilities is becoming a reality on this campus. DSS staff members are confident that student creativity coupled with specialized services will result in a rewarding educational experience.

