

Disabled Student Services

Disabled Student Services (DSS) provides specialized assistance and resources that enable students with physical, perceptual, and learning disabilities to achieve maximum independence while pursuing educational goals. Staff specialists interact with all areas of the university to eliminate physical, academic, and attitudinal barriers.

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.

Accessibility Services. Fresno is one of the most accessible university communities in California. The climate is moderate and the flat terrain affords optimum mobility.

Students can move freely throughout CSU Fresno's instructional facilities and related areas. Elevators are provided to reach all instructional areas above the ground floor. Accessible restrooms, drinking fountains, and telephones are

provided across the campus. Portable science laboratory stations and other specialized academic equipment are available for students who are in wheelchairs.

Other services include blue curb parking, campus access maps, and wheelchair loans for those with temporary needs.

Swimming, wheelchair tennis, weight training, and other physical fitness activities are available through the Individualized Adaptive Physical Education Program.

Resource Center for Students with Disabilities. The Resource Center, situated in the Henry Madden Library, is one of the most efficient and extensive of its kind in California. It contains study rooms and a large main room with accessible tables.

The Resource Center offers academic support services to students with physical, perceptual, and learning disabilities. These support services may include readers, notetakers, scribes, audio-taped textbooks, largeprint books, braille materials, and testing accommodations.

Adaptive equipment includes print enlargers, speech input and voice output computers, a braille printer, and other equipment appropriate to the disability and academic activity.

Learning Disabilities Support Services. Support services to assist students with documented learning disabilities include instruction in alternative learning strategies and techniques and disability management advising with an emphasis on personal growth and development, independence, and self-advocacy. In addition, services may include testing, notetaking, reading, computer instruction, and diagnostic assessment.

Deaf and Hearing Impaired Services. DSS staff act as a liaison between students and faculty. In addition, DSS provides interpreter and notetaker services for academic activities.

Registration Assistance. Students with disabilities may be eligible for priority registration to facilitate scheduling of classes.

Student Responsibility. It is the student's responsibility to arrange for services that are outside the scope of the DSS program. This includes attendant care and special sources of financial aid. However, DSS does provide referrals to appropriate university, state, and community agencies.

Independence for students with disabilities has become a reality on this campus. DSS staff are convinced that the student's creativity, coupled with DSS specialized resources, will result in an extremely rewarding educational experience. ■



Robin Libbee uses a closed-circuit TV magnifier to compensate for her vision loss while studying in the Resource Center for Students with Disabilities.