

AccessAbility

DASS Newsletter
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Vol 14 Issue 1

DASS Disability Accommodations & Success Strategies

Located in the A - LEC

Your DASS Link login: <https://smu-accommodate.symplicity.com/ss0/students/login>

TOPICS

- ◆ MEET THE DASS TEAM
- ◆ ACCOMMODATION LETTERS
- ◆ KURZWEIL/FIREFLY
- ◆ TEST TAKING REMINDERS

WELCOME MUSTANGS!

For all our new DASS students to campus, our **AccessAbility** newsletter is meant to be a message board for our students. When it arrives in your inbox, take a few minutes to open and read so you are aware of DASS updates.

Meet the DASS Team

Alexa Taylor, Director of DASS

Alexa supervises the other six full-time staff, collaborates with departments and faculty members on accommodation issues, reviews and revises operational processes, and handles special projects for DASS. She has been with SMU for 20 years.

Michelle Bufkin, Senior Accommodations Coordinator

Michelle primarily reviews accommodation requests from students with LD or ADHD. She is also a certified academic language therapist, and has been with SMU for 11 years.

Karen Turbeville, Accommodations Coordinator

Karen primarily reviews accommodation requests from students with medical conditions. Her experience as an educator in special education gives her a unique perspective to help students transition from high school to SMU. She has been with SMU for 7 years.

Tomasine Sam, Accommodations Coordinator

Tomasine primarily reviews accommodation requests from students with psychological conditions. She has been with SMU for 2 years.

David Tylicki, Senior Learning Specialist

David primarily provides academic counseling and coaching to students with learning and attention disorders, assisting them with goal setting, time management, self-awareness and advocacy skills. He has been at SMU for 9 years.

Candy Brown, Administrative Assistant

Candy handles all accommodation requests and correspondence coming to DASS, along with coordinating test proctoring for DASS students. She has been with SMU for 9 years.



SEMESTER REQUESTS = ACCOMMODATION LETTERS

Now is the time to submit a "Semester Request" for the classes you are enrolled in for the fall. Here is the DASS Link login that will take you to your home page:

<https://shibboleth-smu-accommodate.symplicity.com/ss0/>

If you are NEW to DASS and had your intake this summer, you still need to submit a Semester Request so your letters will be shared with your current instructors. You will do this every semester, moving forward.

Once on your home page click Accommodation > Semester Request.

This is very important: Review your request by scrolling through every approved accommodation listed and ***only have checked the classes you are going to be enrolled in for the fall.***

2 reasons:

- 1) You only want a letter sent to the professors that will have you in their class.
- 2) It will expediate the approval of your letter being sent to you and your professors.

* After sharing your accommodation letter in DASS Link, it is still your responsibility to reach out to your instructor and discuss your accommodation needs. Good communication with your professor will prevent mistakes from occurring with your accommodations. Our office is open and ready to assist our DASS students! Please reach out if you have any questions.

Welcome Back Mustangs!

PONY UP !

Kurzweil 3000/ Firefly

Kurzweil reads and translates digital text aloud and includes

organizational tools (text highlighter, talking spell checker, note-taking capabilities, and dictionary). SMU students with a documented disability may sign up for an account at [DASS](#).

Other SMU students, faculty, and staff can email for an account libraryaccess@smu.edu

On all computers in the library and may be downloaded on to personal computers.



Test Taking Reminders

If you hope to use test taking accommodations, talk to your professor first. Most professors will manage that themselves.

If they cannot, they may refer you to take your proctored test at DASS. Review procedures for scheduling a proctored test at DASS at:

<https://www.smu.edu/Provost/ProvostOffice/SAES/StudentSupport/SASP/Services/DASS/ApplyingforAccommodations/TestProctoring>

We require 7 days notice and do not administer computer based tests.

The DASS Team – 214-768-1470

Alexa Taylor, Michelle Bufkin, Karen Turbeville, Tomasine Sam, David Tylicki, Candy Brown, Chandler Gobin