

Monterey College of Law
SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS POLICY

Overview

Monterey College of Law welcomes students with disabilities and attempts to accommodate each student's special needs on an individual basis.

Monterey College of Law recognizes that disabilities include physical, psychological and learning disabilities and will make every effort to provide reasonable accommodations for students with professionally verified disabilities. While Monterey College of Law wishes to accommodate students as fully as possible, appropriate adjustments do not include measures which fundamentally alter the academic program or which create an undue administrative or financial burden to the College.

Identification of Disabilities

Monterey College of Law invites and encourages students with disabilities to inform the administration of their disabilities as early as possible. This will allow an opportunity for each student to be addressed thoroughly regarding verification of the disability and identification of appropriate accommodation. Additionally, students may wish to provide documentation of accommodation received at another educational institution or place of work, as this information could be helpful to determine the appropriate accommodation at Monterey College of Law.

A student with a *physical* or *psychological* disability must provide professional verification certified by a licensed physician, psychologist, audiologist, speech pathologist, rehabilitation counselor, physical therapist, or other professional health care provider who is qualified in the diagnosis of the disability. The verification must reflect the student's present level of functioning.

A student with a *learning* disability must provide professional testing and evaluation results which reflect the individual's present level of processing information and present achievement level. Documentation verifying the learning disability, including but not limited to a licensed physician, learning disability specialist, or psychologist. The assessment must provide data that supports the request for an academic adjustment.

A student seeking accommodations on the basis of a *temporary* disability must provide documentation verifying the nature of the condition, stating the expected duration of the condition, and describing the accommodations deemed necessary. Such verification must be provided by a professional health care provider who is qualified in the diagnosis of such conditions. The assessment or verification of the disability must reflect the student's current level of disability, and shall be no older than 60 days.

Procedure for Determining Accommodations

Monterey College of Law will attempt to accommodate students with disabilities to a reasonable extent, consistent with Monterey College of Law's academic standards. Examinations and other procedures for evaluating a student's academic achievement may be adjusted in order to minimize the effect of the disability and allow for an accurate measure of the student's achievement.

The Dean will review each request for special accommodations, and with advice from the Registrar, will evaluate the advisability and appropriateness of the proposed arrangement. The final decision regarding approval or denial of all special accommodations requests will be made at the discretion of the Dean.

Students are required to submit a Special Accommodations Request form as well as documentation of their disability, prepared by an appropriate professional to the Registrar, at least four (4) weeks prior to the date accommodations are needed.

Confidentiality

Monterey College of Law considers information regarding student disabilities to be highly confidential. The administration responsible for evaluating special accommodations requests will have specific information about the nature of a student's disability. Other College personnel involved in the arrangement and facilitation of the special accommodation may have knowledge that a student has a disability, but will not have access to the nature of that disability.

Despite our efforts at confidentiality, members of the general student body and staff may, through observation, become aware that a student is being accommodated. An accommodated student may directly or indirectly inform others of his or her disability or of receipt of accommodations. Monterey College of Law cannot prevent or be responsible for the observations and deductions of others, or for others learning of disabilities or accommodation in such ways. Additionally, Monterey College of Law may be required to make information about disabilities and accommodations available to the Committee of Bar Examiners, as well as accrediting and governmental agencies.