



COUNCIL OF COMMONWEALTH STUDENT GOVERNMENTS
THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
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C.R. 23.24.03

Early Action Disability Inclusion Resolution

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Sponsors: Gretchen Pucklavage, Ava Coups, Emma Sands, Eve Ergler

Whereas, The Council of Commonwealth Student Governments (CCSG) represents the concerns of the students attending the campus in matters of a University-wide nature, as well as those issues impacting the combined interests of the campuses, and those with all forms of disabilities.

Whereas, the definition of persons with a disability, according to Oxford Languages, is a “physical or mental condition that limits a person’s movements, senses, or activities”—which is in compliance with the ADA and Penn State definition of people regarded as having a disability.

Whereas, The United States government reports that only between 12 and 13% of students with disabilities report their disability to the college. Furthermore, of those 12 and 13% of students, up to 43% of them did not receive accommodation for their disability. (NCES, 2022) Equal access to education is a vital aspect to the structure of universities of the United States and must be reflected in Penn State values.

Whereas, Students with disabilities are an especially prone population to drop out of college when not provided with accessible materials. The United States government reports that 25.1% of first year college students possessing a disability will drop out of college, and 35.4% of disabled students continuing to the second year will drop out. (NCES, 2018)

Whereas, Students with disabilities are less likely to obtain a pursued bachelor’s degree compared to students who do not possess any type of disability. The United States government finds that 59.3% of non-disabled students will obtain their bachelor’s degree at first institution, whereas only 42.5% of disabled students will receive their bachelor’s degree at first institution. (NCES, 2023)

Whereas, Institutions such as the University of San Francisco has Disability Programs and a Resource Center, which not only seeks to provide disabled students with their accommodations, but allows for a sense of community to be built among disabled students and their respective campus. (San Francisco State University, 2023)

***Be it resolved,** it is suggested that all Penn State campuses incorporate a module during the New Student Orientation process for disabled students and perspective to access resources for their chosen campus. This module will allow students with disabilities to be exposed to their campuses Disability Student Services directly at the earliest point in their college career. Furthermore, these modules can include accessible material for on-campus activities and events, fostering a disabled student to be included in collegiate culture and experiences. In doing so, students with disabilities would have ample time for their perspective campuses to provide accommodations for their courses, decreasing academic strain and inaccessibility a disabled student may face with the transition into college. In addition, providing accessible materials for campus events will allow disabled students to acclimate to collegiate culture, as opposed to being ostracized due to their disability.*

Respectfully,

Tyler Hoppe
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Alina Abbas
(CCSG Special Director of DEI Initiatives)
Kennedi L. Amaker
(Secretary for Abington)

Council Action

Vote 32 : 0 : 0 Pass: X Fail: Postponed:

Presidential Action

Approved: X Veto: Date: 10/8/23



CCSG President - Elise DuFour

Sources/References

United States Department of Education, National Center for Educational Statistics. (2018)

Characteristics and Outcomes of Undergraduates with Disabilities. [Web Tables—](#)

[Characteristics and Outcomes of Undergraduates With Disabilities \(ed.gov\)](#)

United States Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for

Education Statistics. (2022) *Use of Supports among Students with Disabilities and*

Special Needs in College. [Press Release - A Majority of College Students with Disabilities Do Not Inform School, New NCEES Data Show - April 26, 2022 \(ed.gov\)](#)

<https://adata.org/faq/what-does-regarded-having-disability-mean>

<https://www.usfca.edu/life-at-usf/campus-experience/student-support/student-disability-services>