Quick Reference Guide to Academic Accommodation for Instructors
2020 - 2021

Academic accommodation refers to educational practices, systems, and support mechanisms designed to accommodate diversity and difference within the meaning of the Ontario Human Rights Code. The purpose of accommodation is to enable students to perform the essential requirements of their academic programs. **At no time should academic accommodation undermine or compromise the learning objectives that are established by the academic authorities of the University.** Under the Code accommodation is assessed and provided on an individual basis, up to the point of undue hardship.

There are three types of accommodations typically made by the university: accommodations for disabilities, religious observance, and pregnancy. A statement about accommodations *must* be included on each of your course outlines. See page 3 for Accommodation Statement for Instructors.

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**
The *Paul Menton Centre* for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides evaluation of academic accommodation requests based on relevant medical documentation from registered health care professionals. PMC determines accommodations that are appropriate to the student’s disability-related needs while maintaining academic standards on a course-by-course basis. A student’s accommodation needs are formally communicated through an electronic *Letter of Accommodation*. A student with a disability requiring academic accommodation in your course must contact their PMC coordinator early each term, and request a *Letter of Accommodation* be sent to you. As the Instructor, you are required to:

1. Engage in constructive dialogue with the student and, if necessary, consult with their PMC coordinator, regarding the best ways to facilitate the implementation of accommodation requests as specified in the *Letter of Accommodation*.
2. Work with the student and/or the PMC to coordinate classroom accommodations (e.g. volunteer note takers, sign language interpreters, captioning of multi-media materials in the classroom).
3. Make accommodation arrangements for in-class scheduled tests, quizzes, midterms, or end-of-term final exams that are not formally scheduled. **PLEASE NOTE: Instructors may choose to make these accommodation arrangements within their department, or use the services of the MacIntyre Exam Centre (MEC) located in 133 UC. If you wish to use MEC services, please submit an online booking for each quiz, test, midterm or exam early in the term or at least two weeks before the date of the quiz/test/midterm/exam in order to ensure they have the necessary resources to meet your students’ accommodation needs. For more information about MEC services, please visit:** [http://www2.carleton.ca/ses/mcintyre-exam-centre/](http://www2.carleton.ca/ses/mcintyre-exam-centre/)
4. When Scheduling & Examination Services (SES), the McIntyre Exam Centre (MEC) or the CUOL Office are involved in assisting you with accommodating students with disabilities for in-class tests, CUOL midterms or formally scheduled examinations, please ensure the appropriate office has a copy of the test or exam in the format required within the timeframe specified by SES, MEC, and CUOL.

For more information, please consult the **“Information to Assist Faculty in Accommodating Students with Disabilities”** webpage at [www.carleton.ca/pmc/faculty/](http://www.carleton.ca/pmc/faculty/). If you have further questions or concerns, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca.
Religious Accommodation
Students requiring accommodation on the grounds of religious observance must submit to their instructors a formal written request with suggestions for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying any academic requirements involved. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of any given academic term, or as soon as possible after a need for accommodation is known to exist, but in no case later than the second-last week of classes in that term.

Upon receipt of a request for religious accommodation, you are required to:
1. **Assess the eligibility of the event for accommodation.** If you are not familiar with the religious obligation, ask the student to clarify the actual obligation of the religious event. Note: Commonly cited holy days are posted at [http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/](http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/) and more information is available at [http://www.interfaithcalendar.org/](http://www.interfaithcalendar.org/) If you or the student still have questions, please contact [equity@carleton.ca](mailto:equity@carleton.ca) or call (613) 520-5622 to speak to an Equity Advisor.
2. **Determine an appropriate accommodation in consultation with the student** in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student. Send an email confirming the agreed religious accommodation for the final exam to Exam Services at [examinations@carleton.ca](mailto:examinations@carleton.ca)

Pregnancy Accommodation
Pregnancy accommodation may involve a temporary modification of the elements of the student’s academic program (e.g., laboratory, mid term, final exam, or fieldwork).

Upon receipt of a request for accommodation, you are required to:
1. **In-class and mid-term accommodation:** Discuss directly with the student any request for an in-class accommodation. For clarification please contact [equity@carleton.ca](mailto:equity@carleton.ca) or call (613) 520-5622 to speak to an Equity Advisor.
2. **Final exam accommodation:** Discuss with the student any request for accommodation for final examinations. When you have reached an agreement regarding the most appropriate form of accommodation, have the student fill out and submit the online pregnancy accommodation form at [http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/](http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/) EIC will forward the request to Exam Services to coordinate the accommodation. For clarification please contact [equity@carleton.ca](mailto:equity@carleton.ca) or call (613) 520-5622 to speak to an Equity Advisor

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You can secure more detailed information on the Carleton University Academic Accommodation Policy at the EIC’s website: [http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/](http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/)
IMPORTANT! Accommodation Statement for Instructors

It is essential to include the following statement on your 2020-2021 course outline and read it at the beginning of your first few classes to remind students of their obligations when requesting any form of academic accommodation.

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

**Pregnancy obligation:** write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the EIC’s website: [http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/](http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/)

**Religious obligation:** write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the EIC’s website: [http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/](http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/)

**Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:** The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or [pmc@carleton.ca](mailto:pmc@carleton.ca) for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your **Letter of Accommodation** at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable) at [http://www2.carleton.ca/pmc/new-and-current-students/dates-and-deadlines/](http://www2.carleton.ca/pmc/new-and-current-students/dates-and-deadlines/)

You can visit the EIC’s website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at [http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/](http://www2.carleton.ca/equity/)