

Trinity College

Student Accessibility

Resource Center

My name is Dr. Pamela McKeever, the Coordinator for the [Student Accessibility Resource Center](#) (SARC) and an Assistant Director of Student Life at Trinity. I am reaching out to newly admitted students and families to provide more information about disability related accommodations and how students can go about applying for accommodations at Trinity.

SARC works together with faculty, staff, and students to arrange reasonable accommodations to reduce barriers for students to fully participate in college life. Some examples of conditions that may be accommodated are medical or psychiatric conditions, learning disabilities, and long-term effects from a concussion or other injuries. Educational access includes the provision of classroom accommodations including testing accommodations and auxiliary aids. In addition, accommodations for housing, meal plans, and physical access can be arranged.

Accommodations at Trinity are granted to students who self-identify their disability and complete the application process. You may have had accommodations prior to Trinity, through an IEP or 504 Plan, or you may be deciding to apply for accommodations for the first time; please know that SARC is here to help you navigate the application process.

Applying For Accommodations At Trinity

In May, you will receive your Trinity credentials and gain access to the "Starting Out Portal," which includes a link to a form for voluntary disclosure of a disability and need for accommodations. If you wish to disclose a disability or would like to request accommodations, please be sure to complete this form no later than Friday, May 17.

Once we are notified of your need for accommodations, you will receive an email from SARC with more information about the application process.

Below are some examples of supporting documentation you may need to complete the application process:

- Any historical information you may have regarding your accommodations (IEP/504 Plan; Diagnoses; Etc.)
- Any Neuropsychological testing you have received preferably within the last five years
- Information from a provider (Doctor, Psychiatrist, Psychologist, Therapist, etc.) regarding your disability and needs

Each student who applies for accommodations will need to submit supporting documentation, but the amount and type of documentation needed will be unique to each applicant.

We realize that students may have a desire to try to “go it on their own” without applying for accommodations. While we understand that attitude, if you think you might benefit from accommodations, we strongly encourage you to apply for them. It is up to the student to decide how, and if, they want to implement accommodations that they are approved for. In that way, applying for accommodations can be a sort of insurance for you. For instance, if you start a class and realize that you could use some form of support, it would be best if that support was already available for you, instead of having to start the application process and wait for a determination well into the semester.

It is always better to have appropriate accommodations in place before the need arises, instead of trying to pull them together after you experience a need. Academic accommodations cannot be retroactive. For example: if you perform poorly on a test because you didn’t have enough time to finish it, and you had not consulted with the SARC office about accommodations needs (when extended time might be warranted by your documentation), that poor grade would stand and cannot be changed.

Please contact us if you have additional questions regarding the documentation needed to request accommodations, or if you have general questions about the types of accommodations offered at Trinity. We can be reached at 860-297-4025 or by email at SARC@trincoll.edu.

Sincerely,

Dr. Pamela McKeever
The Student Accessibility Resource Center
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SARC@trincoll.edu