

Student Access Office Ruth S Harley University Center Room 314



# REVIEW OF HOUSING REQUESTS BASED ON DISABILITY RELATED NEED IS DETERMINED ON

a case by case basis. Requests should be submitted to SAO for review and determination. The Student Access Office will review the Petition and documentation in accordance with federal laws pertaining to equal access; all submitted information is considered confidential.

The following is a summary of the factors considered when reviewing housing accommodation requests:

### WHAT IS THE IMPAIRMENT?

An impairment is a disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act only if it substantially limits one or more major life activities. An impairment is substantially limiting if a person is unable to perform an activity as compared to an average person in the general population. Three factors must be considered in determining whether a person's impairment substantially limits a major life activity. These are:

- its nature and severity
- its duration, how long it will last or is expected to last
- its permanent or long term impact, or expected impact.

# WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANT IMPACT TO A MAJOR LIFE ACTIVITY?

A major life activity is an activity that an average person can perform with little or no difficulty. Examples are walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, caring for oneself, sitting, standing, lifting, reading. Therefore:

- what is the specific barrier to access
- how does the barrier impact functioning
- is the accommodation request reasonable and appropriate

### TIMING OF THE REQUEST

- Was the request made with initial housing request?
- Was the request made before the deadline for housing requests for the semester in question?
- Was the request made as soon as possible after identifying the need? (Based on date of diagnosis, receipt of housing assignment, change in status, etc.)

# **FEASIBILITY & AVAILABILITY**

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- Can space be adapted to provide the requested configuration without creating a safety hazard (electrical load, emergency egress, etc.)?
- Are there other effective methods or housing configurations that would achieve similar benefits as the requested configuration?
- How does meeting this request impact housing commitments to other students?



In order to consider requests for a single room housing accommodation assignment based on the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and the Fair Housing Act, in addition to documentation, we require the following information:

3 Diagnosis, Act, 9/F212T/F8 ud EQF