

AccessAbility

DASS Newsletter
August 2020
Vol 13 issue 2

DASS Disability Accommodations & Success Strategies

Located in the A - LEC

Your DASS Link login: <https://smu-accommodate.symphlicity.com/sso/students/login>

TOPICS

- ◆ MEET THE DASS TEAM
- ◆ ACCOMMODATION LETTERS
- ◆ DASS STUDENT REMINDERS

SEMESTER REQUESTS = ACCOMMODATION LETTERS

Now is the time to submit a "Semester Request" for the classes you are enrolled in for the fall. Here is the DASS Link login that will take you to your home page:

<https://shibboleth-smu-accommodate.symphlicity.com/sso/>

If you are NEW to DASS and had your intake this summer, you still need to submit a Semester Request so your letters will be shared with your current instructors. You will do this every semester, moving forward.

Once on your home page click Accommodation > Semester Request.

This is very important: Review your request by scrolling through every approved accommodation listed and ***only have checked the classes you are going to be enrolled in for the fall.***

2 reasons:

- 1) You only want a letter sent to the professors that will have you in their class.
- 2) It will expediate the approval of your letter being sent to you and your professors.

*It is still the student's responsibility to reach out to their instructor and discuss their accommodation needs. Due to the many choices of instruction this semester, remote, F2F, or a mix of both, good communication with your professor will prevent mistakes from occurring with your accommodations.

Our office is open and ready to assist our DASS students! Please reach out if you have any questions.

Welcome Back Mustangs!

WELCOME MUSTANGS!

For all our new DASS students to campus, our **AccessAbility** newsletter is meant to be a message board for our students. When it arrives in your inbox, take a few minutes to open and read so you are aware of DASS updates.

Meet the DASS Team

Alexa Taylor, Director of DASS

Alexa supervises the other six full-time staff, collaborates with departments and faculty

members on accommodation issues, reviews and revises operational processes, and handles special projects for DASS. She has been with SMU for 19 years.

Michelle Bufkin, Senior Accommodations Coordinator

Michelle primarily reviews accommodation requests from students with LD or ADHD. She is also a certified academic language therapist, and has been with SMU for 10 years.

Karen Turbeville, Accommodations Coordinator

Karen primarily reviews accommodation requests from students with medical conditions. Her experience as an educator in special education gives her a unique perspective to help students transition from high school to SMU. She has been with SMU for 6 years.

Tomasine Sam, Accommodations Coordinator

Tomasine primarily reviews accommodation requests from students with psychological conditions. She has been with SMU for 1 year.

David Tylicki, Senior Learning Specialist

David primarily provides academic counseling and coaching to students with learning and attention disorders, assisting them with goal setting, time management, self-awareness and advocacy skills. He has been at SMU for 8 years.

Candy Brown, Administrative Assistant

Candy handles all accommodation requests and correspondence coming to DASS, along with coordinating test proctoring for DASS students. She has been with SMU for 8 years.

Chandler Gobin, Administrative Assistant

Chandler assists the team with test proctoring, as well as other access issues such as alt format conversion and has been with SMU a year.



A Few Reminders to DASS Students



Wear a mask at all times: In buildings, hallways, and restrooms. Social distance of at least 6 ft. Wash hands frequently or if that is not possible, use the hand sanitizer located all over the campus. DASS has a number of **clear masks** for students who are deaf or hard of hearing to hand out to those around them. Contact your Coordinator for access to the clear masks.



Kurzweil 3000/Firefly

Kurzweil reads and translates digital text aloud and includes organizational tools (text highlighter, talking spell checker, note-taking capabilities, and dictionary). SMU students with a documented disability may sign up for an account at [DASS](#). Other SMU students, faculty, and staff can email for an account libraryaccess@smu.edu. On all computers in Fondren Library and may be downloaded on personal computers.

The DASS Team – 214-768-1470

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