

Education Abroad Disability Accommodation Request Form

Office of Education Abroad (OEA)
And
Office of Disability Services (ODS)

This form is to be completed by Ohio University students with disabilities planning to study abroad with an Ohio University-sponsored study abroad program. Students participating in an Ohio University exchange program should communicate with their program coordinator in the Office of Education Abroad on how to request accommodation from the partner institution. Students participating in programs through other universities or providers should contact the sponsor of the program for information on how to request accommodation for a disability.

Instructions for any student wishing to make a request for accommodation on a study abroad program:

1. Make an appointment with Disability Services to discuss accommodations for your study abroad program and complete this form. Requests for accommodations must be made within a reasonable time.

Instructions for ODS:

1. In accordance with ODS procedures, certify that the student has a disability and requires reasonable accommodation in order to participate in the study abroad program.
2. Together with the student, complete the entire Disability Accommodation Request Form. Be clear as this form will be shared with others.
3. Indicate what the student's limitations are (based upon the health related documentation submitted by the student) and what accommodations ODS recommends for the student's participation in the study abroad program. Please **define** any technical terms such as mobility orientation, closed-captioned, etc. Sites vary greatly on the types of accommodations possible. Providing details and possible alternatives will help the study abroad sites arrive at creative solutions.
4. Forward the completed form to the Ohio University Office of Education Abroad. Fax: 740-593-9758. E-mail: education.abroad@ohio.edu.

Instructions for the Office of Education Abroad:

1. The OEA Point Person for the program should review the accommodation request and notify OEA director or assistant director.
2. Conduct research on the reality of the program site and discuss with ODS what reasonable accommodation may look like.
3. Identify accommodations that can be made. Consult with ODS regarding possible accommodations. The OEA may consult the program director during this process. Whenever possible, student identity (name, PID) will not be shared with program directors until after students have been screened for program participation.
4. Notify student of possible accommodations. Discuss alternatives with students if requested accommodation may not be possible.

Instructions for Program Director:

1. Respond to any query regarding an accommodation request with the accommodation you feel is possible to provide. If you feel the specific accommodation is not possible, suggest alternatives.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Because there is much variability within each disability category, the type of accommodations needed may vary significantly. Below, you will find descriptions of the various types of disabilities recognized in the United States. Student needs vary according to each individual. Therefore, it is important for the participating student to clarify the particular accommodations she or he requests.

The term **disability** is defined in the United States as an impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities including but not limited to: hearing, seeing, speaking, breathing, performing manual tasks, walking, caring for oneself, or learning. While not all individuals who have one of the following conditions are disabled, categories of disabilities may include the following:

Chronic health: affect one or more of the systems of the body. This may include cancer, diabetes, epilepsy, HIV-AIDS, etc.

Hearing: can range from students who have difficulty hearing, have lost hearing in one ear, or are completely deaf.

Learning: refers to significant difficulties in the acquisition and use of listening, speaking, reading, writing, reasoning, and/or mathematical abilities, with the presence of average to superior intelligence. This includes such conditions as dyslexia, dyscalculia, and dysgraphia, and can be extended to include attention deficit disorder.

Mobility: range from very limited stamina to paralysis of the lower and/or upper extremities. Conditions that may cause a mobility disability include arthritis, back disorders, cerebral palsy, spinal cord injuries, and neuromuscular disorders.

Psychological: diagnosis of a mental illness by a licensed professional. This includes conditions such as depression, bipolar disorder (may include both depression and manic state), anxiety disorders, post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and schizophrenia.

Brain Injury: results from injury to the head. May cause impairment in mobility, sight, hearing, speaking, personality, and/or thinking.

Visual: includes decreased vision, total blindness, and partial sight such as impaired field of vision.

(To be completed by ODS Staff Member and OHIO student)

Student's Name _____ PID _____

Local Telephone _____ Email _____

Education Abroad
Program _____

Location _____ Dates of Program _____

OEA Contact Person _____

Telephone _____ Fax (740) 593-9758 _____

Email: _____

ODS Staff Completing Form _____

Telephone _____ FAX (740)593-0790 _____

E-mail _____

Disability Information

ODS Representative: Please briefly describe the nature of the student's disability and how this disability may impact the student's participation in study abroad programs (i.e.. functional limitations).

Indicate the recommended accommodations and related considerations to be given in the areas listed below:

1. Classroom (e.g. extended time, adaptive equipment, a quiet location, classroom set up, etc.)

2. Housing

3. Transportation/Mobility

4. Dietary

5. Health Care

6. Other comments or concerns:

I give permission for Ohio University staff to provide information regarding my disability and accommodation request to third parties as needed to process my request for accommodation and to provide an effective study abroad experience. I understand that Ohio University cannot guarantee that accommodations I request will be reasonable or available in the study abroad program to which I have applied. I understand it is my responsibility to contact ODS (and either program director or OEA) if I should identify further accommodation needs after I arrive on site. Ohio University will attempt to facilitate reasonable accommodations at that time.

May we refer your name and contact information to Ohio University students who are interested in your experience? _____ Yes _____ No

Signature of Student: _____

Date: _____