**Teaching Students with Temporary Impairments**

Students experiencing a temporary impairment (such as an injury) may choose to seek guidance from the Office of Disability Services if the plan on continuing with their academic work through their recovery. A representative from ODS will meet with the student to discuss their needs, and inform them of the resources available throughout campus which may be able to help address their additional needs as they recover. Because temporary impairments are expected to last less than six months, these students are not covered under the Americans with Disabilities Act, but may still have needs similar to those with long-term impairments. Given that these individuals are not covered under the ADA, they will be encouraged to meet directly with their instructors to discuss what adjustments may be acceptable to the instructor. Temporary impairment support is generally discussed for the current semester; if longer-term support is needed, ODS staff may discuss documenting the impairment as a disability. Most students experiencing a temporary impairment will not need support beyond the current semester.

ODS can provide support to the instructor in providing these agreed upon adjustments through the use of test proctoring resources that are in place for students with disabilities. Instructors may also choose to provide these adjustments on their own, without support from ODS (such as coordinating extra time, or a separate space to take an exam within a college office, or using a T.A. to scribe an exam for a student who has injured their writing hand). ODS can also assist by locating note-taker services for students who need it during recovery from a temporary impairment. If seeking support from ODS in providing adjustments to the testing environment, or how the test is delivered, instructors must still comply with the ODS test proctoring procedures, which includes completing a test proctoring request form and submitting all necessary materials within published timelines.

Other support provided by the instructor will also be at their own discretion. Instructors may choose to extend deadlines for assignments that were missed during the injury, they may accept a certain number of additional missed classes for treatment, or may decide on other adjustments not listed here. Instructors are encouraged to engage in a 1:1 discussion with students experiencing temporary impairments so that plans can be made, and so that the limitations of those plans are understood by both parties.

Instructors can provide necessary supports for their students with temporary impairments in the following ways:

* When possible and requested, the instructor may provide a copy of his or her class notes and presentation materials to a student.
* If a student has voluntarily revealed his or her temporary limitations that can influence course participation, discuss ideas with the student on what can be considered as reasonable alternatives or supports.
* In the beginning of a semester, forward planning helps to anticipate course requirements that may compromise student participation and can offer enough time to decide on solutions and put them into place. This is common in courses that involve physical activities; students with limited reach, limited manual ability, or upper body weakness may require an assistant.
* Suggest to a student with an obvious and new injury (students with casts, arm slings) to contact the Office of Disability Services.
* Expect a separate testing environment if a student uses a scribe, typist/transcriber or is participating in an oral exam.
* Contact the Office of Disability Services for ideas when solutions needed in the classroom are not readily apparent.