

AccessAbility Resource Centre

How Can I Register? It's as Easy as 1 > 2 > 3

Your Transition Planning Checklist

Transition Tips For Students With Disabilities



Goal of the Service

To facilitate the inclusion of students with disabilities into all aspects of university life.

Service Description

The essence of accommodating people with disabilities is individualization. Our services include, but are not limited to:

- Assessing and coordinating reasonable accommodations and support services (e.g., note taking and exam support, mobility assistance)
- Counselling (e.g., understanding of one's disability, self-advocacy skills)
- Facilitating funding for disability-related needs
- Providing assistive technology support
- Coaching for learning strategies
- Addressing accessibility issues on campus
- Promoting inclusive practices
- Providing referrals within the university and to community-based supports.

**All students go through a period of transition when they come to university. The AccessAbility Resource Centre can help you make it a successful one!*

1. Contact the office at Voice / TTY 905-569-4699 or email access@utm.utoronto.ca and make an appointment to meet with an Advisor.
2. Bring your disability-related documentation to your appointment (see below).
3. Request accommodations in a timely manner.

Your Transition Related Documentation

To facilitate the accommodation process you will need to provide:

- Up-to-date documentation* (such as a medical certificate or psycho-educational assessment report) identifying how your disability impacts you in an educational setting, strengths and challenges, and recommended services and accommodations
- Information about what services and accommodations were offered in previous educational environments (e.g., IEP)
- Information about what financial supports are available to you (e.g., eligibility for OSAP, Assistive Devices Program, etc.)

**If you do not have complete documentation please speak to our staff about what to do next.*

I have completed the following steps.

- Contacted the AccessAbility Resource Centre to make an appointment

Appointment Date: _____

Advisor's Name: _____
- Gathered my disability-related documentation to bring to my appointment
- Applied to OSAP in order to establish eligibility for the BSWD
- Browsed the AccessAbility Resource Centre website to familiarize myself with services offered
- Explored orientation activities at U of T Mississauga



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First Year Transition

Careful planning for post-secondary education is important for all students.

For students with disabilities a key element of transition planning is exploring and setting up services and accommodations in advance.

The AccessAbility Resource Centre can help you to plan for success in this time of transition.



Get Involved!

Making a successful transition to university will depend on YOU.

Attend U of T Mississauga activities, take part in study groups and get to know the campus and it's services.



General Tips to Make Your Transition Easier

Have realistic expectations

University is very different from high school:

- Be aware of increased academic demands in the university setting.
- Realise that you will need to develop skills to be more independent and self-directed than you were in high school.

Set appropriate educational plans

- Make informed decisions about course load.
- Talk to an Advisor about how many courses to take, this decision is different for every individual and may have an impact on your disability.
- Think about the types of courses that best match your academic strengths and interests.

Develop self-advocacy skills

- Speak up if you have any questions or are experiencing difficulties.

Taking an active role in ensuring that your needs are met will have a positive impact in all areas of your university experience. Talk to an Advisor about any of these transition issues & tips!

What Else Can You Do?

Understand and identify your needs:

Identify your disability-related needs to the AccessAbility Resource Centre and request accommodations in a timely manner.

Familiarize yourself with all available resources and services

U of T Mississauga has to offer:

Read all the materials that are sent to you by U of T Mississauga and make use of online resources. A good starting point is the AccessAbility Resource Centre homepage.

Become familiar and comfortable with available assistive technology:

There are many aids available that can help you manage potential barriers to learning (e.g., software which will read printed material aloud).

Did you know ?

We recommend students apply to OSAP to establish eligibility for the OSAP Bursary for Students with Disabilities (BSWD). The BSWD is intended to help students with their disability-related educational costs (e.g., assistive technology, etc.).

**For more information please book an appointment with our office to see an Advisor.*