



VICTORY
CAREER COLLEGE

ADA Policy- Americans with Disabilities Act

Victory Career College

**455 E Carson Plaza Drive, Suite C
Carson, CA 90746**

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Americans with Disabilities Act

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

1. **Accommodation Procedures for Students with Disabilities**
2. **Grievance Procedures for Students who have Complaints Based on Disability**

1. Accommodation Procedures for Students with Disabilities

Non-Discrimination Policy—It is the policy of Victory Career College to comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act which are Federal laws that prohibit discrimination based on disability. Victory Career College does not discriminate based on disability against a qualified person with a disability regarding application, acceptance, grading, advancement, training, discipline, graduation, or any other aspect related to a student's participation in a program of Victory Career College. This applies to all students and applicants for admission to Victory Career College. Victory Career College will provide reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities.

Definition of an Individual with a Disability—An *individual with a disability* is a person who has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities of the individual. These persons are protected by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Individuals with a record of such an impairment and individuals who are regarded as having such impairment are also protected by these Federal laws. The definition of "disability" in Section 504 and the ADA should be interpreted to allow for broad coverage.

The phrase *physical impairment* means a physiological disorder or condition, a cosmetic disfigurement, or an anatomical loss, that affects one or more of the following body systems: neurological; musculoskeletal; special sense organs (which would include speech organs that are not respiratory such as vocal cords, soft palate, tongue, etc.); respiratory, including speech organs; cardiovascular; reproductive; digestive; genitourinary; hemic and lymphatic; skin; and endocrine. Examples include, but are not limited to, orthopedic, visual, speech, and hearing impairments, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, cancer, heart disease, diabetes, HIV disease (symptomatic or asymptomatic), tuberculosis, drug addiction, and alcoholism.

The phrase *mental impairment* means any mental or psychological disorder, including but not limited to, mental retardation, organic brain syndrome, emotional or mental illness, specific learning disabilities, post-traumatic stress disorder, depression and bi-polar disorder. The phrase substantially limits must be interpreted without regard to the ameliorative effects of mitigating measures, other than ordinary eyeglasses or contact lenses. Mitigating measures are things like medications, prosthetic devices, assistive devices, or learned behavioral or adaptive neurological modifications that an individual may use to eliminate or reduce the effects of impairment. These measures cannot be considered when determining whether a person has a substantially limiting impairment. An impairment that is episodic or in remission is a disability if, when in an active phase, it substantially limits a major life activity. For example, a student with bipolar disorder would be covered if, during manic or depressive episodes, the student is substantially limited in a major life activity (e.g., thinking, concentrating, neurological function, or brain function).

The phrase *major life activities* mean functions such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, seeing, hearing, eating, sleeping, walking, standing, lifting, bending, speaking, breathing, learning, reading, concentrating, thinking, communicating and working. Major life activities also include major bodily functions such as functions of the immune system, normal cell growth, and digestive, bowel, bladder, neurological, brain, respiratory, circulatory, endocrine, and reproductive functions Victory Career Colleges Responsibilities to Students with Disabilities

Victory Career College must provide *academic adjustments, auxiliary aids* and *reasonable accommodations* to students with disabilities, which are necessary to ensure students are not denied the benefits of, or excluded from participation in, Victory Career Colleges program. Victory Career College must make modifications to its academic requirements that are necessary to ensure that the requirements do not discriminate against students with disabilities. The school must ensure that it provides physical access to students with disabilities. It is also the responsibility of Victory Career College to permit students with disabilities to use service dogs on each campus.



The person responsible for implementing these responsibilities at Victory Career College Campus is:

Karine Fougoux
ADA Compliance Coordinator
455 E Carson Plaza Drive Suite C Carson, CA 90746
karine@victorycareercollege.edu

When a student informs a school staff member that the student is disabled, or needs accommodations or assistance due to disability, the staff member will refer the Student to The School's ADA Compliance Coordinator.

Procedures for Students and the school

Documentation of disability by students — Students with disabilities who wish to request reasonable accommodations (including academic adjustments, auxiliary aids, or modifications) must contact the ADA Compliance Coordinator named above for their campus. Students must provide documentation of disability from an appropriate professional, which depends on the nature of the disability. For example, a student with a psychological disability should provide documentation from a psychologist, psychiatrist or social worker.

This documentation may be the student's existing medical records, or reports created by the student's medical provider or an appropriate professional who assesses the student. It may be documentation from the student's past educational records such as reports from teachers or school psychologists, or records that show the student's educational history, disability assessment, and the accommodations the student previously received. It may be records from the State Department of Rehabilitation or the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Documentation should be current and relevant, but that does not mean that a recent report or record is needed in all cases. Some disabilities are stable lifelong conditions, and historical documentation will be sufficient. Some disabilities are readily apparent and observable and thus little, or no documentation will be needed.

The documentation of disability is always kept in a locked, private file at The School. To protect privacy, direct access to this documentation is by written on sent only. The ADA Compliance Coordinator will determine what information needs to be shared with Victory Career College staff, on an "as needed" basis, to facilitate academic accommodation or other services.

Student requests for accommodations and interactive discussion with ADA Compliance Coordinator Students who plan to request accommodations should contact the ADA Compliance Coordinator promptly, so there is time for the coordinator to review the student's documentation and discuss accommodations with the student before the student begins the class or program for which the accommodation is being requested. When a student contacts the Coordinator, the Coordinator will keep a record of the dates and contacts with the student, including a record of the accommodation requested by the student. Students who have questions about the type of documentation they need to provide should contact the coordinator to discuss this.

The student and the ADA Compliance Coordinator will discuss how the student's impairment impacts the student, how the student expects the impairment to impact the student in the school's program, the types of accommodations the student has previously received (if any), and the accommodations being requested by the student from The School. The coordinator and the student should discuss accommodation needed during all phases of the program (Core, Adaptive and Creative), and for classroom instruction, skills-based instruction and skills practice.

The documentation (or observation) must show the nature of the student's disability and how it limits a major life activity. The accommodation requested by the student should be related to these limitations. There is no pre-set accommodation for specific disabilities. Instead, the Coordinator and the student must discuss and determine what the student's limitations are, and how they can be accommodated.

Here are some examples:

- A student with an orthopedic disability may need cushioned floor mats and scheduled times to sit down. These students may also need particular kinds of chairs.
- A student with a learning disability or attention deficit disorder may need extra time to take tests, such as ninety minutes to take a test instead of the sixty minutes allowed to other students. These students may need to take their tests in a location that is quiet and has no distractions, such as an office rather than the classroom.

- A student with a learning disability or psychological disability may need a note taker, a copy of the instructor's notes or presentation, or to use a tape recorder during instruction.
- A student with post-traumatic stress disorder or an anxiety disorder may need to take periodic leave of absence or may need to structure their program so that it is scheduled over a longer period of time than usual. These students may need to take breaks in a quiet room during skills practice.
- A student with a hearing impairment may need instructors to use voice amplification systems or may need the school to provide a sign language interpreter.
- A student with diabetes may need periodic breaks to check his or her blood sugar level.

Decision about accommodations and ensuring implementation of accommodations — The ADA Compliance Coordinator will decide the accommodations to be provided to the student. The coordinator will consider any past accommodations that have been effective for the student and will give primary consideration to the type of accommodation requested by the student. Alternate accommodation may be provided if there is alternative accommodation that would be equally effective for the student.

The coordinator will decide no later than two weeks after the student states the request for accommodation. If the student does not submit documentation of a disability at the time the student requests accommodation, the coordinator will decide no later than two weeks after the student provides the documentation.

The coordinator will list the approved accommodations in writing and provide this to the student. The coordinator will inform the appropriate instructors and school staff of the accommodation they are responsible for providing to the student, how to provide the accommodations, and when to provide the accommodations. The coordinator will keep a written record of these contacts about the student's accommodations. The coordinator will verify that the accommodations are being implemented for the student through direct observation, report by the student, and/or documentation from the school staff. If the student informs the coordinator that accommodation is not being fully implemented, the coordinator will immediately intervene with relevant staff members to ensure the accommodation is provided to the student.

After accommodations have been approved for a student, the coordinator will make an appointment with the student for a time when the student's program is expected to change. The purpose of the appointment is to determine whether the student's accommodations should be changed when the student's program phase changes, or the type of instruction changes.

Additional factors—The school is not obligated to provide accommodations that would result in a fundamental alteration of the school's program. In this case, the coordinator will promptly search for equally effective alternate accommodation for the student that would not fundamentally alter the program. The coordinator will offer alternate accommodation to the student.

The school is not obligated to provide accommodation that would result in an undue financial or administrative burden on the school. If the Coordinator decides that a requested accommodation might impose such a burden, the coordinator will discuss the issue with the school owner, who will consider the overall financial resources of the school. The school owner will make the final decision, in accord with the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act. If the school owner determines that the requested accommodation would be an undue burden, the coordinator will promptly search for an equally effective alternate accommodation for the student and offer the alternate accommodation to the student.

Appeals by Students

A student may appeal any accommodation decision made by the ADA Compliance Coordinator if the student disagrees with the decision. Here are some examples: A student may appeal the coordinator's decision to deny a requested accommodation. A student may appeal against a decision by the coordinator to provide alternate accommodation rather than the specific accommodation requested by a student. A student may appeal against a decision by the coordinator that the student has not presented sufficient documentation to support the requested accommodation. A student may also file an appeal when a school staff member fails to provide approved accommodation, and the coordinator has not effectively addressed the situation.



When a student wishes to file an appeal, the student must notify:

Karine Fougoux

Owner

455 E Carson Plaza Drive Suite C

Carson, CA 90746

(310)-808-9194

karine@victorycareercollege.edu.

The student must explain his/her reasons for disagreeing with the coordinator's decision or explain how the student's accommodation is not being implemented and submit any relevant documentation.

Within five calendar days of receiving a student's appeal the Director will meet with the student and the coordinator to discuss the issues presented by the student's appeal. If appropriate, the Director will also discuss the issues with other School staff members.

When a student appeals a decision made by the Coordinator, the Director will determine whether the coordinator's decision should be revised or remain the same. If the decision is revised, the Director will ensure that the revised decision is implemented.

When a student files an appeal on the basis that an approved accommodation is not being implemented, the Director will determine whether the accommodation is being fully implemented, and if it is not, ensure that the accommodation is implemented.

The Director will inform the student of the decision in writing no later than fourteen days after receiving the student's appeal.

Training and Mediation Responsibilities of the ADA Compliance Coordinator

The ADA Compliance Coordinator at each campus will deliver disability training sessions for all campus staff members at least once each calendar year. In these training sessions the coordinator will explain the basic requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities

Act as they apply to The School. The coordinator will address: The School's responsibility to provide accommodations to students with disabilities; how to appropriately interact with students with particular kinds of disabilities; how to go about implementing accommodations that the coordinator has approved for students; how to support students with disabilities in The School's programs; that students with disabilities cannot be penalized for using approved accommodations. The coordinator will keep a record of each training session.

The coordinator may also provide trainings for students who wish to learn about The School's process for providing accommodations, or about the school's grievance procedures.

To help ensure that future campus staff members and students are aware of The School's policies, the coordinator will make sure that the Accommodations Procedures and the Grievance Procedures are continually posted at the campus.

The coordinator will assist students with disabilities who have concerns about implementation of their accommodations or their treatment by The School staff members or other students. At the request of a student, the coordinator will informally mediate or attempt to resolve issues related to the student's disability. If this informal process does not resolve the student's concerns, the student may file a grievance as described in Section II below.

Grievance Procedures for Students who have Complaints Based on Disability Policy

Victory Career College is responsible for providing a grievance procedure to students who feel they have been discriminated against based on disability. The grievance procedure provides students the opportunity to file a complaint. The school then has the responsibility to objectively investigate the allegations in the complaint and determine whether the student has been discriminated against. If the school determines that discrimination occurred, the school must take appropriate steps to correct the discrimination and prevent it from reoccurring.

Grievance complaints — A student may file a grievance if the student feels he or she has been discriminated against because the student is disabled, or because the student is regarded as being disabled, or because the student has a record of being disabled. A student may also file a grievance if the student feels that he or she has been retaliated against for advocacy based on disability. Here are some examples of discrimination:

- An instructor or other students refer to the student in a derogatory way related to the student's disability.
- An instructor generally refers to students with particular types of disability in a derogatory way.
- Other students refuse to work with the student because the student is disabled.
- A School staff member refuses to provide a service to the student that the staff member provides to other students.
- A school staff member takes a negative action toward the student after the student asked for accommodations for a disability.
- A guest presenter at The School makes derogatory statements about students with disabilities, or states that students with disabilities can never be employed in the presenter's field.
- A student's request for accommodation was denied by the school, or an instructor did not implement accommodation for the student that was approved by the school.

A student must file a grievance complaint within 90 days of the date the discriminatory act occurred, or within 90 days of the end of an informal attempt to resolve the complaint, whichever is later. The complaint must be written. In the complaint, the student must describe what happened and the dates the acts took place, and state who was involved. The student should explain why the student believes the acts were taken based on disability. The student should describe or provide copies of any relevant documents or emails, if available.

A student may ask the Campus ADA Compliance Coordinator to try and informally resolve the student's complaint before the student files a written complaint. However, the student is not required to try informal resolution before filing a written complaint.

The complaint must be sent to:

Karine Fougoux
Owner
455 E Carson Plaza Drive Suite C
Carson, CA 90746
(310)-808-9194
karine@victorycareercollege.edu

Investigation of the Complaint—When the Director receives a written complaint, the Director will immediately begin an objective investigation. The school has the right to contract with an independent investigator to conduct any investigation. Within seven days, the Director will discuss the allegations in the complaint with the student and obtain any needed additional information from the student. The Director will obtain from the student the names of any person the student believes will have relevant information. The Director will gather all information necessary to determine what took place. To do so, the Director will interview any School staff members or students who are engaged in the actions or may have witnessed the actions that the student is complaining about. The Director will interview people that the student stated may have relevant information. The Director will gather any relevant documents such as emails, student work or instructor's records. During the investigation, the Director will disclose the complaint, and confidential information about the student, only to the extent necessary to investigate the allegations of the complaint.

After reviewing all the evidence gathered, the Director will determine whether the student was treated differently from other students based on disability; or whether the student was harassed based on disability; or whether the student was retaliated against because the student advocated based on disability; or whether the student was denied an accommodation that the school should have provided to the student.



Written Decision — The Director will provide the student with a written decision no later than sixty days after the date the student filed the complaint. The decision will state the determination reached by the Director at the conclusion of the investigation, and the reasons the Director reached that determination. If the Director concludes that the student was discriminated against on the basis of disability, the decision will state the types of remedial action that the school has taken or will take to correct the discrimination. The decision will also state how the school will prevent the discriminatory acts from occurring again.

Appeals by Students — If the student who filed the complaint disagrees with the decision made by the Director, or disagrees with the remedial action specified, the student may appeal the decision to the school Owner. The appeal must be written and sent to:

Karine Fougoux
Owner
455 E Carson Plaza Drive, Suite C
Carson, CA 90746
(310)-808-9194
karine@victorycareercollege.edu

The appeal must state the specific reasons that the student disagrees with the decision. Appeals must be filed no later than thirty days after the student receives the written decision from the Director.

The Owner will review all the information provided by the student in the appeal, the decision by the Director, the interview records made by the Director and the documents gathered by the Director. The Owner will issue a written decision to the student within fourteen days after receiving the student's appeal. The owner will determine whether the decision should be revised or remain the same. If the Owner determines that the decision should be revised, the Owner will ensure that any necessary changes in the remedies are implemented.

U.S. Department of Education

Students or the school staff who has questions or concerns about disability issues may contact the Office for Civil Rights (OCR), U.S. Department of Education. OCR enforces Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act as they apply to post-secondary educational institutions.

If you believe that you or another person has been discriminated against at school based on a mental health disability, you may file a complaint with the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division at <https://civilrights.justice.gov/> or https://www.ada.gov/fact_on_complaint.htm, or with the Education Department's Office for Civil Rights at <https://www2.ed.gov/ocr/complaintintro.html> to file a complaint in English or www.ed.gov/ocr/docs/howto.html to file a complaint in other languages.

The fact sheet is on the Department of Justice's website and, separately, on OCR's website at <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/ocr-factsheet-students-self-harm-covid-19.pdf>.

The OCR National Headquarters is located at:

U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights
LyndonBainesJohnsonDepartmentofEducationBldg400
Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-1100
Telephone: (800) 421-3481
FAX: (202) 453-6012; TDD: (877) 521-2172
Email: OCR@ed.gov

OCR has regional offices located throughout the country. To find the office for our state, you can check the OCR website at: <http://wdcrocolp01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.com>, or call the telephone number above.



Acknowledgment Form of Employee ADA Policy

Victory Career College ensures that its employee(s) designated to serve as educators or staff members have adequate training on what constitutes sexual harassment, including sexual violence, and that they understand how Victory Career College grievance procedures operate.

I, _____, certify that I understand and acknowledge the procedures to follow in case a complaint is brought to me in class. I will have the student fill out an incident report, give the student a copy, and fill it with the school director as soon as possible. I will provide interim measures as soon as I am aware. I will report immediately any report of sexual violence to the local law enforcement and will file an incident report for Victory Career College administration to start the disciplinary process. I will keep myself available to the office and will take note of the incident within an hour of the reported incident. If I sense bodily harm or danger to my person or student, I will call 911 immediately.

I, _____, certify the I was trained in the following areas:

- Interim measures
- Sexual harassment
- Sexual violence
- Domestic violence
- Dating violence
- Sexual assault
- Stalking
- Consent
- Sex discrimination
- Disability
- Mental Health Disability

Employee Signature: _____ Date: _____

School Official: _____ Date: _____



Student Name: _____

Disability: _____

Student must check one or more options: _____

I authorize Victory Career College to discuss my disability's accommodations with the person/ professional of my choice:

Name: _____

Phone number to call:

I authorize Victory Career College to review the official documentation from my professional recommendations and to share information about my needs, grades and attendance with instructors, staff, and employees and my own medical professional.

I authorize Victory Career College to use other methods of education delivery which will fit my temporary (no more than 5 school days) disability needs without a professional recommendation. _____

Opt-out of accommodations offered by Victory Career College at this time.

My signature certifies that I was provided with accommodations choices. My signature indicates that I understand and agree to follow the professional recommendations and follow the institution's accommodations set for my own good. I consent that this authorization is at my own option, and I may cancel or modify at any time, but not retroactively. If I do choose to cancel, or modify this authorization form, I may do so by contacting Victory Career College in- writing or in person by completing, signing, and dating a new authorization form. This authorization will be in effect for the entire length of the agreed accommodations during my enrollment at Victory Career College and will end upon physician's end of accommodation's needs/ transfer/withdrawal/graduation/termination unless I advise the institution of my intent to cancel or modify it.

(Print) Student Name

Signature

Date

(Print) School Officer Name

Signature

Date

Please note that your choice is voluntary. If you do not complete this form, we will considered to have chosen, "Opt-out of accommodations" as your option related to the disability accommodations. You have the right to modify this authorization form at any time, but not retroactively.