



Marshall B. KETCHUM UNIVERSITY

Student Disability Services

Student Disability Services Annual Report

2021-2022 Academic Year (AY)

The Vice President for Student Affairs (VPSA) is the Student Disability Services Coordinator with responsibility for coordinating Marshall B. Ketchum University's (MBKU) efforts to comply with and carry out its student disability accommodations responsibilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), including investigations of complaints. The Director for University Student Affairs serves as the Assistant Coordinator providing additional support with student requests. The Vice President for Human Resources serves as the MBKU ADA/504 Coordinator with ultimate oversight responsibility, including remedying campus access issues and ADA complaints appeals processes.

Overview of Services

MBKU is committed to full and equal opportunities for all students and applicants. MBKU does not unlawfully discriminate against qualified applicants or students with disabilities and encourages their full participation within the community. To this end, MBKU accepts¹ and supports qualified students and applicants with disabilities and complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), as amended, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and state and local regulations regarding students and applicants with disabilities².

MBKU provides reasonable accommodations to otherwise qualified applicants and students with known physical or mental disabilities, unless it would create an undue hardship or fundamentally alter the nature of the academic program, service, or activity. MBKU will remove barriers where readily achievable and/or provide alternative measures when removal of barriers is not readily achievable. Applicants or students needing accommodations must make their needs known in advance. MBKU cannot provide an accommodation when it does not know that an accommodation is required.

Applicants or students with disabilities or access issues may request accommodations at any time. However, because MBKU must have time to review and approve the request before making accommodations, and because some accommodations take more time to provide, applicants or students with disabilities should contact MBKU and request an accommodation as soon as possible.³

For additional inquiries, please contact:

Carmen Barnhardt, OD, MS Ed
Student Disability Services Coordinator
Vice President for Student Affairs
cbarnhardt@ketchum.edu | 714.449.7423

Ashley White, MA, MS
Student Disability Services Asst Coordinator
Director for University Student Affairs
awhite@ketchum.edu | 714.449.7414

Wende Holtzen, MS, SPHR, SHRM-SCP
MBKU ADA/504 Coordinator
Vice President for Human Resources
wholtzen@ketchum.edu | 714.449.7459

¹ Applicants or students must be able to meet the minimum standards of MBKU and the program, service, or activity with or without a reasonable accommodation.

² Disabilities include any physical or mental impairment(s) that limit one or more major life activities, or a record of such limiting impairment.

³ The "Accommodating Students & Applicants with Disabilities" policy is in the University Student Handbook. Relevant forms and other materials are located on the Students tab of My.Ketchum.Edu. These documents may also be accessed by contacting the Student Disability Services Coordinator.



Educational Initiatives

Through education and training initiatives, the Student Disability Services Coordinator provided the University community with information, tools, and resources to promote policy/process awareness and encourage supportive and inclusive interactions with students with disabilities. We delivered targeted programming to specific, relevant groups including first-year students and their upperclassmen Peer Advisors, Peer Tutors, new employees, MBKU faculty, and clinical preceptors.

We maintain a variety of online resources: the Faculty Compliance Moodle page for employees and the Student Achievement Center Moodle course and “Students” tab of My.Ketchum.Edu for all current students. These pages host video presentations, quizzes, and several additional resources and information for assisting students in distress, the ADA, MBKU Student Disability Services and accommodation processes. We also make available an ADA/Disability Services brochure for high-trafficked areas of campus.

Student Disability Services Statistics for AY 2021-2022

In keeping with national best practices for higher education institutions, the MBKU Student Disability Services Coordinator shall publish a report on relevant statistics annually each fall, for the prior academic year, without disclosing any specific student information. All numbers reported are for the 2021-2022 Academic Year, unless specially stated.

| | |
|---|--------|
| Newly registered students in Disability Services. | 50 |
| Students requesting new or updated accommodations and services. ⁴ | 61 |
| New individual, specific approved accommodations. ⁵ | 77 |
| Students receiving multiple accommodations. | 22 |
| Students requiring temporary accommodations. | 10 |
| Students who disclosed multiple diagnoses. | 24 |
| Student disability services accommodations appeals submitted. | 0 |
| Student disability services accommodations appeals accepted. | N/A |
| Total number of students registered with Disability Services in the 20-21 AY. | 88 |
| Percentage of students registered at MBKU in the 19-20 AY. | 12.32% |
| | |
| Non-disability related statistics: Students receiving religious adjustments. | 9 |

⁴ Includes all requests even if accommodations were not actually implemented and both previously and newly registered students with Disability Services.

⁵ If a student receives multiple accommodations, each is counted separately. If a student’s accommodations are changed based on an accepted appeal, only the revised accommodations are counted.

Demographic Information

In the 2021-2022 Academic year, Disability Services administered an optional demographic survey for students newly registered to the Service. There were 33 students who completed the survey. This represents a little over half of the newly registered students in Disability Services. Responses represented all programs and graduation years. Students were able to self-identify their race/cultural background, however for the purposes of comparison and protecting identity, the responses were collapsed into the census definition of race and ethnicity.

- Hispanic/Latinx origin or decent: 12%
- Race: (Select all that apply or self-describe)
 - White/Caucasian: 50%
 - Asian American: 41%
 - American Indian or Alaska Native: 3%
 - African American: 0%
 - Prefer not to say: 6%
- International students: 6%
- Female: 78%
- Average age: 28-1/2 years (range: 21-39 years)
- Veteran: 3%
- Parenting students: 15%

Executive Summary

MBKU Disability Services as we know it today, began with only 0.44% of registered students. Today, that number has grown to 12.32%, doubling last year's number. We have supported 124 students with disabilities since 2016. This is a fact we attribute to improved access to the policy and procedures and promotion of these services through our educational initiatives.

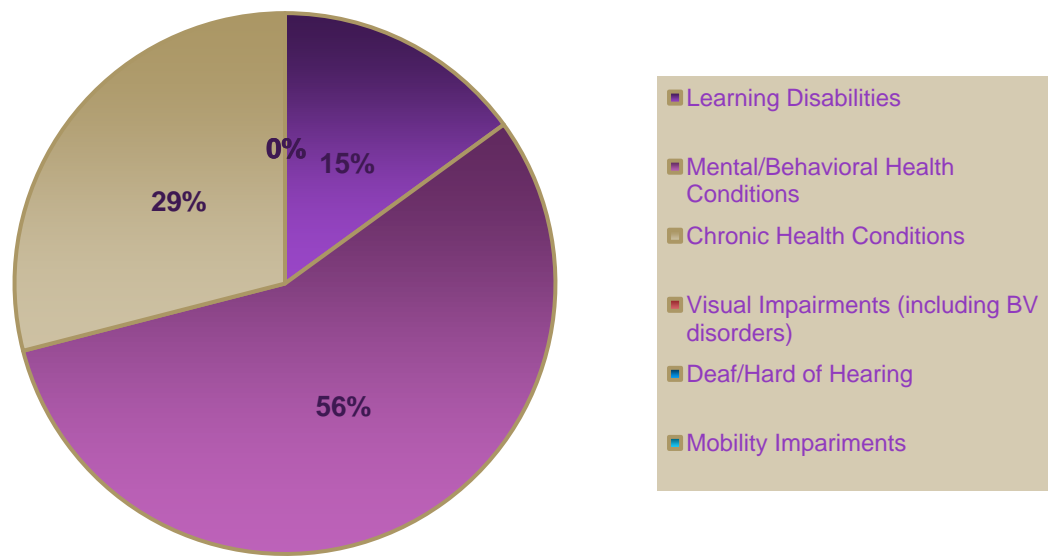
For context, 61 million adults in the United States live with a disability. That represents 1 in 4 or 26% of adults having some type of disability. Students with disabilities who go on to become health care providers show increased empathy and understanding when delivering care to patients with disabilities. We believe that by fostering a positive and inclusive environment for health care students with disabilities, this will create diverse practitioners poised to diminish the health care inequities experienced by patients with disabilities.

For comparison, the Association of American Medical Colleges published a study in 2019 reporting that approximately 1,500 medical students in the U.S. disclosed a disability and received formal accommodations. That is about 2.7% of medical students, and represents a lower percentage than undergraduate programs, in which about 11% of students disclose a disability. The report found that in medicine especially, many students hide their disability out of a fear of judgment, bias, and skewed perception of ability. Our goal is to reduce the fear of judgment and bias at MBKU.

Disability Services tracks the types of disabilities of students registered (see pie chart below). Mental/Behavioral Health Conditions (e.g., ADHD, Generalized Anxiety Disorder, Major Depressive Disorder, including ongoing treatment) represented the qualifying condition for 56% of newly registered students, followed by Chronic Health Conditions (e.g., Chronic Migraines, Irritable Bowel Syndrome, Diabetes, Fibromyalgia, medical treatment, including ongoing treatment and pregnancy) at 29%. Lastly, Learning Disabilities (e.g., Dyslexia, Dysgraphia and Specific Learning Disability) were the qualifying condition for 15% of newly registered students. Please note a single student may report more than one type of disability. National statistics suggest a growing number of students in higher education reporting mental health concerns. We saw the sharp increase this year and we are prepared to support these students through Disability Services and Student Counseling Services.

We have also included the percentages of the different types of accommodations provided to students (the second chart). The majority of students received testing accommodations (testing in a reduced distracted environment and extended time). All three of our Programs have students registered with Disability Services. The Program administrators and faculty have been supportive of student needs in the classroom. We appreciate their flexibility in creating an equitable opportunity for all students.

Disability Type



Accommodations by Type

