



ACCESS for International Students

Accessible Campus Community & Equitable Student Support (ACCESS) at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville assists all students with diagnosis-based learning differences, regardless of their national origin. If you are an international student with a diagnosis or disability, ACCESS would like to invite you to visit our office to speak with our staff.

United States law defines a disability as a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more *major life activities*. Examples of major life activities include walking, listening, reading, and learning. Students with disabilities have the right to utilize curricular and co-curricular accommodations to mitigate the functional impacts of their disabilities.

If you have a disability and require curricular or co-curricular accommodations for your disability while attending SIUE, please contact ACCESS as soon as possible to meet with a staff person so you may discuss your situation.

Please understand that in American culture, identifying yourself as having a disability may not carry the same stigma that it might in your culture of origin. ACCESS would like to assure you that our staff are non-judgmental and that you should not hesitate to seek accommodations.

In order to receive accommodations while attending SIUE, you will need to register with ACCESS and supply our office with documentation of your diagnosis. ACCESS staff require such documentation to be provided in English for review. If your documentation is in a language other than English, your documentation must be translated into English by a fluent third-party translator. Please rest assured, too, that any records you share with ACCESS are kept confidential and private and that they are not included as part of your primary student record at SIUE.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact ACCESS by calling (618) 650-3726, emailing myaccess@siue.edu, or visiting Student Success Center, Room 1270.

Please note: speaking English as a second language is not considered a disability. If your fluency poses persistent difficulties for you, be sure to contact the Office of International Affairs for further assistance.