Edition #01 September 2024



THE ADVOCATE: A Newsletter Devoted to Disability Equity



TOP NEWS OF THE MONTH

DID YOU KNOW? OC EAC HAS AN APP!

The Educational Assistance Center (EAC) at Oxnard College has an app where you can access all your EAC services and requests. Submit a Test Proctoring Request Form, request an interpreter for an event, ask questions about class accessibility, schedule a class presentation about services and more! It's a one-stop shop for all your EAC needs. Bookmark our app on your browser or add it to your smartphone's homepage!

Consider using dyslexia-friendly fonts in your presentations and materials. Sans Serif fonts, such as Arial or Verdana appear less crowded. Other dyslexia-friendly fonts are: Century Gothic, Trebuchet, Calibri, and Comic Sans. Increased spacing between letters and words, or tracking, is easier for those with dyslexia to read. Font size should be 12-14 point or equivalent.



TIPS AND TRICKS: DYSLEXIA-FRIENDLY FONTS

DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION OR SUGGESTION FOR NEXT MONTH'S CONTENT?

Contact Heather Molloy at heather_molloy1@vcccd.edu



CONNECT WITH US

805.678.5830





@oc.eac



WHAT EXACTLY ARE ACCOMMODATIONS?

Colleges are required to provide reasonable accommodations (academic adjustments, auxiliary aids, services, and educational assistance courses) so that students with verified disabilities can fulfill academic requirements.

These accommodations may include, but are not limited to:

- · Changes in teaching methods or materials
- Increased time allowances
- · Alternate assignments
- Substitution of equivalent courses

Effective accommodations relate directly to the student's educational limitation. They are designed to:

- · Overcome disadvantages imposed by a disability
- · Provide equal opportunity for achievement
- · Address individual needs
- Be provided as a legal right, not as a privilege

Effective accommodations preserve academic integrity.

They must not:

- · Provide a competitive advantage
- Lower the academic standard by "watering down" content
- Lower the academic standard by grading the student more leniently
- · Continue if ineffective or no longer required

Academic accommodations are not required if they would alter the fundamental nature of a course or a program. However, the burden of proof is on the college to demonstrate that the student's accommodations will alter the fundamental nature of a course or a program. A central consideration is that the college administration and the faculty/staff member have made good faith efforts to provide appropriate, reasonable, and equal access to the college's educational programs, services, and activities without altering their fundamental nature.

SEPTEMBER: NATIONAL SERVICE DOG MONTH

September is National Service Dog Month! There are many reasons people have a service dog. When a service dog is in a harness/jacket, they have an important, sometimes life-saving job to do. Emotional support, therapy, comfort, or companion animals are not considered service animals under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). It's important to recognize the difference by looking for physical indicators and observing the behavior of the animal.

When encountering a service dog:

- Do keep in mind the handler is supported by the service dog to perform the functions of daily living.
- Do use an encounter with a service dog team as an opportunity to educate children.
- Do offer help when appropriate, but do not insist.
- Do not pet the service dog without permission.
- Do not stare at the dog.
- · Do not feed the dog.
- Do not talk to or make sounds to get the dog's attention.
- Do not be offended if a handler says no to petting the dog or cannot chat with you about the dog.

If you have a service dog, it needs to be registered in the EAC with the coordinator, Leo Orange, prior to taking the dog to class.



PHOTO COURTESY OF STOCKCAKE.COM

EAC STAFF SPOTLIGHT: NATE STREEPER



Nate Streeper is the Alternative Media Specialist for the Educational Assistance Center. Prior to Oxnard College, he was the Adaptive Technology Specialist for UCSB, and prior to that, he was the Talking Book Library Coordinator for Braille Institute. He enjoys connecting students with alternate media and assistive technology, and he is a fierce advocate for universal design.

In his free time, Nate collects comic books, reads comic books, and writes (you guessed it) comic books. He and his wife Rebecca are the proud parents of two cats and a pug, which they spoil rotten. Nate can be reached at nstreeper@vcccd.edu