

USF World and Education Abroad Office

Student Accessibility Services Getting the Accommodations You Need When Abroad

I

Getting Accommodations

Register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS)

You may already be registered with SAS for academic accommodations. If not, you must register with SAS in order to receive accommodations. You can do this by visiting the [Forms](#) tab on their website and complete an application. You will also be required to supply your disability documentation before your application can be reviewed. Once registered, you will be assigned a coordinator.

Request a SAS Verification Letter be sent to the Education Abroad Advisor

Schedule a meeting with your SAS coordinator to discuss your plans of studying abroad, and request a SAS Verification Letter to be sent to the EAO regarding your unique circumstances and the accommodations you may need.

II

Steps to Prepare

Meet with the Education Abroad Advisor, Program Leader and SAS

Coordinator as appropriate

To prepare for this meeting, please consider how your access may be impacted in the following areas. Please take into account that unlike on campus, international travel involves all aspects of living abroad, not just classroom time.

- Classroom accessibility
 - Are there ramps, elevators?
 - Are the bathrooms close to your classroom? Are they accessible?
 - Library and other resources?
 - Communication
 - Notetaking during class
 - Reading texts required for class
 - Completing exams
- Housing
 - Do you need to request a bedroom on the first floor?

- Are you going to need access to an elevator, ramps?
- Handrails in the bathroom? Accessible shower?
- Accessibility features (automatic doors, visual fire alarms, bed shakers, etc.)
- Is it close to your work placement or school?
- Transportation
 - Do you need to have access to public transportation, cabs, or specialized cabs?
 - How will you get groceries, attend church, go shopping, take trips with the class, etc.?
 - Are you able to navigate new environments independently (read maps, identify crosswalks, ask for directions, etc.?)
- Health care
 - What medications do you need to take with you?
 - Do you have adaptive equipment (wheelchairs, power equipment, and specialized computer software) that may require additional planning?
- Dietary
 - Are you familiar with the dietary preferences of your destination?
 - Do you have specific dietary needs related to a medical condition or disability?

Receive a confirmation letter from your Education Abroad Advisor

This letter should include the accommodations available including any limitations or additional agreed upon costs. If there is a Program Leader for the proposed international travel, they should be included in the receipt of this letter.

III

Understanding Disability Culture

- The Americans with Disabilities Act does not necessarily accompany you as you travel abroad. Research the legislation and approach to persons with disabilities within the culture you will visit.