

Auxiliary Aids and Services

Auxiliary aids include interpreters, or other effective methods of making orally delivered materials available to students who are deaf or hard of hearing; readers for students with visual impairments; classroom equipment adapted for use by students with manual impairments; and other similar services or equipment.

Definitions:

- **Qualified Interpreter:** an interpreter who, via a video remote interpreting (VR) service or an on-site appearance, is able to interpret effectively, accurately, and impartially, both receptively and expressively, using any necessary specialized vocabulary. Qualified interpreters include, for example, sign language interpreters, oral translators, and cued-language translators.
- **Video remote interpreting (VR) service:** an interpreting service that uses video conference technology over dedicated lines or wireless technology offering high-speed, wide bandwidth video connection that delivers high-quality video images.
- **Qualified reader:** a person who is able to read effectively, accurately, and impartially using any necessary specialized vocabulary.

While funding for accommodations to ensure equal access is available from Niagara University, funding for auxiliary aids is often the responsibility of state vocational rehabilitation agencies. However, some students with disabilities may not be eligible to be clients of the vocational rehabilitation agency. These state agencies also set limits on the amount of assistance they provide for auxiliary aids. The University does not provide prescription devices, or devices and services of a personal nature.

The need for auxiliary aids and services is deemed appropriate by the Disability Services based on the documentation provided by the student. The student must follow these procedures in order to request auxiliary aids and services:

Beginning of Each Semester

The student must initially contact Disability Services to request auxiliary aids and services as early as possible each semester. The student must provide Disability Services with documentation of disability, which supports the need for auxiliary aids and services. Disability Services will then determine which auxiliary aids and services are appropriate accommodations. The student must meet with professors or administrative personnel to inform them of needs, preferably at the beginning of the semester. If requested, Disability Services will provide the student with a Course Accommodations Approval Form to give to the professor or to campus personnel outlining approved accommodations.

Students may be encouraged to apply for funding from outside sources such as Adult Career and Continuing Education Services (ACCES)