Office of Specialized Services (OSS) Quick Tips for Faculty

Do	Don't	Rationale
Include the OSS statement in your syllabus as per	Provide accommodations without an	Despite good intentions, doing so may
the Academic Review Committee (ARC), 2018.	accommodation notice from OSS.	jeopardize your position in potential disputes
		that may arise over academic adjustment
		requests from other students.
Make general announcements to the class related	Share information about a student's disability or	Students' information regarding their disability
to accommodations, such as directing students to	accommodations in front of the class or with	is confidential. Although intentions may be
OSS to request them or encouraging students to	other staff (unless you have an accommodation	good, please refrain from asking intrusive
use them.	letter from OSS and are working with your	questions regarding their disability. OSS can
	colleague).	share implications of the student's disability so
		you can have an understanding of the impacts
		and how they may play out in your course.
Let OSS staff know if any approved	Refuse to provide the accommodation without	Denying an accommodation without
accommodations listed in a student's	speaking to an OSS staff member.	understanding how it may or may not be
accommodation notice may potentially conflict		implemented in your course leaves you and the
with course objectives.		College liable to OCR (Office of Civil Rights)
		complaints or lawsuits based on discrimination.
Talk privately with students about their	Talk about accommodations in a public setting.	Creating a respectful and inclusive environment
accommodations if they bring up the topic.		is important for all students, especially students'
		who are part of protected classes (i.e.,
		disability).
Submit your Faculty Alternative Testing	Leave your Faculty Alternative Testing Agreement	Without this information, OSS/Testing Center
Agreement form as early as possible (you have	incomplete even if providing the testing	does not know the parameters of your exams.
the option to say you'll provide the	accommodations.	You will receive an automated email when your
accommodations on the form).		form is updated.
		If you plan on proctoring your own exams,
		please select that option on the form and/or
		email osstests@ramapo.edu and they can
		update it on your behalf.

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Email osstests@ramapo.edu with any questions	Email OSS@ramapo.edu or OSS counselors at	OSStests@ramapo.edu is monitored from
or concerns related to testing accommodations	their personal email addresses regarding testing	8:30am-4:30pm during business days. If an email
(i.e., extended test time, testing in OSS/Testing	accommodations.	is sent to the personal counselor or the main
Center, exam details, etc.).		OSS inbox, OSS may not receive the information
		in a timely manner, which may impact a
		student's testing accommodations.
Refer a student to the OSS office if they mention	Refer a student specifically to OSS when a student	Some students feel stigmatized because of their
having an IEP or 504 plan or services in high	has not disclosed a disability or IEP/504 status	disability status, so it is important to group OSS
school (like extra time) and they are asking for	without folding other campus support services	in with all other campus support services to
something similar from you.	into the discussion such as tutoring, office hours,	minimize having students feel targeted.
	counseling, etc.	
Refer students with concussions or medical	Rely just on notes from medical professionals as	Recovery and treatment can be complicated and
recovery challenges to OSS.	to how to accommodate a student in your class.	challenging for students; OSS can support you
		and students navigate this process.
Refer to OSS Faculty Resources available on the	Hesitate to contact OSS with any questions or	OSS is here to support you and the students. We
OSS website: What Faculty Need to Know about	concerns.	cannot provide support if we do not know it's
Students with Disabilities - OSS - RCNJ		needed. Please do not hesitate to contact OSS
		with any questions or concerns.
Contact each student's assigned OSS counselor or	Hesitate to raise flags on Connect.	It gives OSS an opportunity to check in with the
the OSS Director at their personal email address.		student and help them be proactive.
For general questions or if the student may not		
yet be affiliated, contact oss@ramapo.edu.		