

Absences: medical and disability excuses

Excused absences from classes may be due to a documented disability or unanticipated medical issue (i.e. injury, sudden illness). In the case of the former, all documentation is received, reviewed, and managed by Disability Resources according to their established guidelines and students can generate accommodation letters to faculty. In the latter, faculty will be informed either by the Academic Success Center (after a review and determination is made by the CARE team) or students should provide documentation directly to faculty. Only if an unanticipated medical issue will lead to a temporary or permanent disability does Disability Resources need to be involved.

Examples:

- Student is hospitalized for appendicitis and expected to fully recover quickly. Absence notification provided by ASC (after a review and determination is made by the CARE team) or student directly to faculty. No involvement by DR.
- Student is hospitalized for appendicitis and will be temporarily disabled. Absence notification provided by ASC (after a review and determination is made by the CARE team) or student directly to faculty. Student must provide documentation to DR for ongoing accommodations (i.e. absences for appointments, notetaker).
- Student who has absence accommodations from DR due to a disability is hospitalized or received medical treatment for the disability. No involvement from ASC or additional documentation required from student to faculty. Absences are covered as accommodations.
- Student is hospitalized or received medical treatment for a condition which leads to a diagnosis of an ongoing disability. Absence notification provided by ASC (after a review and determination is made by the CARE team) or student directly to faculty. Student must provide documentation to DR for ongoing accommodations (i.e. absences for appointments, notetaker).

Faculty should not make assumptions about student recovery, treatment, or performance based on their personal or other experiences.