

From: Rick Jerz rick@rjerz.com
Subject: Re: Confirming SDS services
Date: December 7, 2020 at 10:12 AM
To: Ken Brown kenneth-g-brown@uiowa.edu



Hi Ken,

I am going way back in time, meaning pre-COVID, to provide some feedback on the “student accommodations” topic. I have been working on these ideas, on and off, for the last ten months. (I am getting this off my “to do” list.) Some of this may or may not be relevant. However, I want to mention that I have been applying these ideas since Spring 2020, and I have not had any individual student exceptions in my courses. So, my approach seems to work for me thus far. Perhaps some of these ideas will be helpful others.

I am not sure who else would benefit from my ideas. I decided to give them to you.

Let me know if you need any other information or ideas from me.

Regards,

Rick Jerz

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Online
Accom...s.docx

On Mar 17, 2020, at 3:39 PM, Thomas, Barrett <barrett-thomas@uiowa.edu> wrote:

Tippie Faculty,

I know that many of you have felt fatigue with the amount of information we’re throwing at you. This email addresses the letters of accommodation that Students with Disabilities Services provides to students and how we will address those in the virtual environment. If you know that you do not have any students needing these provisions, you do not need to read further.

For those of you with students who have letters of accommodation, Ken reached out to SDS for clarification. Below is the response. For the most common accommodations that we see, it looks like that, by its nature, the virtual environment lifts the responsibility off of the faculty member. This is particularly true in the case of unproctored, open-book assessments, the kind of assessments that we’ve been advocating for our virtual teaching.

The SDS response below does not address all accommodations. If you have questions that you still need answers, please email me directly, and I will coordinate getting answers.

Barry

Barrett Thomas, Ph.D.

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On March 17, 2020 at 2:32:30 PM, Brown, Kenneth G (kenneth-g-brown@uiowa.edu) wrote:

Word from SDS. This is good news—lots of accommodations are handled by going to ICON testing. And if they are open book, then the memory aid issue is also take care of.

Moving to ICON unproctored, open-book quizzing is a good solution....

Barry — can you send to the rest of the DEOs?

Ken

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Kenneth G. Brown, Ph.D.  
Ralph L. Sheets Professor of Management  
Associate Dean, Undergraduate Program  
Tippie College of Business, University of Iowa

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Venzon, Michael A" <[michael-venzon@uiowa.edu](mailto:michael-venzon@uiowa.edu)>  
**Date:** March 17, 2020 at 2:17:25 PM CDT  
**To:** "Brown, Kenneth G" <[kenneth-g-brown@uiowa.edu](mailto:kenneth-g-brown@uiowa.edu)>  
**Subject:** RE: **Confirming SDS services**

Ken,

Sorry for the delay. At this time, SDS is following with most other offices and going virtual with our staff. I am reaching out to instructors who have previously scheduled exams through SDS to 1) inform them that SDS is no longer proctoring exams in our office and 2) check in to see if they are still planning on assessing and work with them as needed to solve any accommodation concern that isn't already solved by use of technology.

We've been learning from our peer institutions that many of the accommodation needs are solved through the use of technology, including the following:

removing.

**Reduced distraction environment:** Not relevant if students are taking online quizzes/exams from with their own environments since they can choose their location and manage distractions themselves.

**Extended time for testing:** All activities with a time limit need to have extended time (1.5x or 2x) adjusted accordingly. Canvas allows you to adjust the time limit for specific students. See [this link](#) for how to adjust the time in Canvas.

**Computer for essays:** Not relevant if students are taking online quizzes/exams using their own devices.

**Adaptive equipment for testing:** Not relevant if students are taking online quizzes/exams using their own devices. \*\*It is important to ensure the format of the exam is accessible. SDS staff are available to consult if needed.\*\*

**No Scantron:** Not relevant if Scantrons are not being used

**Breaks/Food and Drink:** Not relevant if students can manage their own testing environment

If any instructor has accommodation concerns/questions, we recommend that they reach out to the Accommodations Coordinator (listed at the bottom of each LOA) and staff will be available to consult with them.

Please let me know if you have any concerns/questions.

Mike