# Accessibility Services 2018-2019 Academic Year Report



Assistant Dean of Students: Carla Blankenbuehler Accessibility Services Coordinator: Spencer Poling The 2018-2019 Academic Year was another successful year for Accessibility Services. We changed our department name from Disability Services to Accessibility Services. We all agreed this change of title was more accommodating to students, and had less of a stigma with the title. We were provided with a new area to proctor exams for students that is more accommodating to students and their needs. We continued our supports of students throughout the year, while providing many events, and other opportunities for them to get involved in.

Our retention rate from the fall to spring semester was 60.4%. The number of classes that accommodated students registered with Accessibility Services was 223. We had 80.36% of our students make a c or better. The term GPA was 2.51 and our overall GPA for students registered with Accessibility Services is 2.63.

The Accessibility Services department provided trainings for staff and faculty throughout the year. Those trainings included, "Knowing Student's Accommodations", "Service Animals Training", "PTSD and how it affects our Students", and, "Transitioning Students with Documented Disabilities to College". We also worked with many allied health programs to discuss how to manage their stress. These workshops were met with great attendance and participation. Accessibility Services will also be presenting at multiple conferences throughout the state and country. This year they will present at the WVASPA conference in Canaan Valley, WV, Student Success Summit in Morgantown, WV, and AHEAD Conference in Boston Massachusetts.

Moving forward we have set many goals for this department. We are going to reevaluate our intake process for students, and what documentation they are to provide us. Tracking retention of our students from each semester, working on a Transition fair for recruitment purposes on our Montgomery campus, and continuing to work on membership with student organizations.

BridgeValley began a student of the month program this year. Accessibility Services was proud to be represented by two deserving student who were honored with this awarded. Lauren Easter was chosen for the month of December, and Ashley Higginbotham was chosen for the month of April.

Outside of Accessibility Services I am also involved in classified staff council. I have recently been elected as Sector Rep for professional non-teaching section. I served on a committee that planned our staff professional development day. This was met with great participation & attendance.

As you continue reading this report, we will provide data of how we supported students, what accommodations we provided, as well as the disabilities we supported. We will also provide information and updates on our events, as well as pictures.

Below is the data of how the Accessibility Office supported students enrolled for the 2018-2019 school year. Our number of students fluctuate throughout each semester, but our maximum number of students that were supported this year was 93 students.

Month	Students	Students	Phone	Email	Tests	Tests
	Assisted	Assisted	Communication	Communication	Proctored	proctored
	SC	MC			SC	MC
August	63	2	16	75	23	2
September	121	13	14	298	97	13
October	108	15	12	407	70	16
November	42	2	2	288	48	4
December	81	6	3	211	69	6
January	56	2	6	167	11	4
February	91	3	7	439	62	17
March	99	6	9	278	35	11
April	113	5	18	511	56	20
May	42	0	3	35	44	14
TOTALS	816	54	90	2,709	515	107

#### Student Accommodations

Listed below are the accommodations that were provided to students throughout the 2018-2019 academic year. Please note that many students qualified for multiple accommodations due to their diagnosis. Students also had the option of when they want to utilize their accommodations.

Accommodation	Fall 2018 Semester	Spring 2019 semester
Alternate Testing Location	72	76
Extended Test Time	75	78
Note Taking	39	40
Other	6	8
Print Enlargement	4	3
Priority Seating	15	12
Tape Record	28	24
Test Reader	21	18
Test Writer	2	2
Use of Calculator	35	30
Use of laptop/tablet	19	17
Waiver of Absence Policy	14	20

## Student Disabilities

Listed below are the accommodations that were provided to students throughout the 2018-2019 academic year. Please note that many students qualified for multiple accommodations due to their diagnosis. Students also had the option of when they want to utilize their accommodations.

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#### **EVENTS**

Each semester the Accessibility Services office hosts events throughout campus. We kick off the year, with our Guide to College. This is an orientation for students registered with Accessibility Services to attend. They receive one on one attention to answer any questions or concerns about attending college. They receive a packet of information and a tour of the school.

Our biggest event of the year was hosted in October. Disability Awareness Week was a huge success this year, with multiple events going on throughout the week. We partnered with the Division of Rehabilitation Services for a two day workshop for local high school seniors, to tour our campus, and attend sessions to help prepare them for the expectations of college. We also offered a workshop for faculty to train them in becoming an ally for students diagnosed with Autism who may need assistance while on campus. Overall the week was a success with 73 students attending our transition fair, and 19 faculty and staff members attending our Autism Ally Training.

We had information tables on both campuses, and sent out emails to students to make sure they were aware of the accommodations they could be receiving for a diagnosed disability. Students registered through Disability Services participated in an art exhibition where they displayed their creative pieces on both campuses. This was met with huge success, and we hope to continue to grow our art exhibit each semester.

In April the Accessibility Services Office hosted National Autism Awareness Day. We encouraged all students, staff, and faculty to wear blue in support of individuals living with Autism Spectrum Disorder. A banner was displayed in the lobby of both campuses stating our support of individuals living with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Students, faculty, and staff were able to sign this in support. We received over 100 signatures.

## **Event Photos**

The Banner that was displayed in the lobby on both campuses, recognizing Disability Awareness Week.



Art Exhibition, we had paintings, drawings, clay masks, poems, and stories submitted by our students.



Vendor Fair for students who attended the Transition Fair. The Vendor fair was also open to students at BVCTC. We had 6 different agencies attend.



High School Seniors from Kanawha County Schools attending our Transition Fair.





Autism Ally Training with BridgeValley Faculty & Staff

A representative from the College Program for students with ASD at Marshall University trained faculty & staff on how to be an ally to someone diagnosed with ASD. Upon completion of the training participants received stickers to place in their office to show they are an ally.



