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Extensions to Assignment / Project / Paper Deadlines

Reasonable extensions to deadlines is an accommodation intended for students with chronic, physical, or mental health disabilities that are episodic in nature with periodic flare-ups which result in occasional interruptions that interfere with the ability to meet deadline/hand-in requirements.

This accommodation is designed to build in a modest amount of flexibility to a course policy to address the impact of a brief, occasional flare up. It is not designed to comprehensively address and fully support a student who misses, or is unable to meet deadline/hand-in requirements as a matter of course.

In some cases, course policy adjustments may not be possible and the student's final grade may be impacted should the student choose to enroll or stay enrolled in a particular course. ARS cannot guarantee a desired outcome but does assure full consideration of all relevant variables when making access determinations.

ARS staff and faculty members will need to be assured that this accommodation is entirely justifiable and should be granted only in the following circumstances:

- The accommodation is appropriate and reasonable in relation to the student's medical condition / disability and the particular challenges the student experiences as a consequence of the medical condition / disability.
- The granting of this particular accommodation does not compromise the critical, fundamental purpose or focus of the assessment task.
- Academic standards are not compromised.

All three of these conditions should be met in order to move forward with this accommodation. It may also be necessary to consider the impact of the proposed extension on other students, for example in the case of a group assignment or project.

Faculty members are encouraged to use 'extended' assessment tasks which are 'universal' in their design, thus obviating the need for this accommodation to be negotiated for an individual student.

An essay paper with a maximum word limit of say 2500 words which the faculty member estimates should be completed within a week by the vast majority of students but with a time limit of 2 weeks (where the end-result under a time constraint is not a critical component of the task) is an example of an assessment task with 'universal design' features.

Of course, if the completion of a task to a certain, prescribed level or standard within a 'critical' time-frame is a critical component of an assessment task then it goes without saying that a time extension cannot be granted.

Students needing to use the extension accommodation may negotiate this directly with the class instructor or may complete the [Deadline Extension Request Form](#) [1].

Source URL: <https://ars.unc.edu/accommodations/extensions-assignment-project-paper-deadlines>

Links

[1] <https://ars.unc.edu/students/request-forms/deadline-extension-request-assignments-papers-reports-etc-only-not-scheduled>