Other FAQs

**Professor Notifications**

This process notifies Faculty staff to the fact that the student is registered at Accessibility Resources and Service. The notification will not contain any information about the nature of the medical condition or disability, unless the student specifically requests this, but will contain information about the accommodations available. Most importantly, the notification presents an opportunity for the student to discuss their specific needs in greater detail, in person, with key Faculty staff.

For detailed instructions, students should visit [Notify Professors / Schedule Tests & Exams to be taken at ARS.](https://ars.unc.edu) [1]

**NOTE:** Students will need to issue Professor Notifications at the beginning of each Semester / Session and before the deadline determined by ARS. The deadline will provide ample opportunity for students to issue notifications. ARS will alert students when Professor Notifications can be issued.

**Note Taking**

Electronic devices for note taking may include a SmartPen, digital recorder, laptop, iPad, smartphone, portable keyboard or other device when a student cannot effectively note take by hand. Responsibilities are as follows:

**Instructors should:**

Allow the student to use an electronic device to support note taking.

Contact ARS [2] if there are any questions or concerns about the student using an electronic device for note taking.

**Students should:**

Use your own device or Contact ARS [2] to request to borrow an electronic device for note taking.
For detailed information, visit Request for Audio-Notetaker Loan. [3]

ARS will:

Provide an electronic device for note taking when this is an approved accommodation.

**Foreign Language / Math Substitution**

To be considered for a course substitution the student should submit a petition letter describing the history of experiences taking Math or Foreign Language prior to college and at college level and interventions used. The following areas should be addressed specifically:

- The experience of skill acquisition / developing competence in the foreign language / math including the types of learning problems encountered in class, completing assignments and taking tests and exams.
- Performance in quizzes, tests and assignments as well as the overall course grade.
- Interventions the student has used to deal with any difficulties.
- Other supporting documentation, for example a psychological evaluation, medical documentation.

http://curricula.unc.edu/committees/course-substitution-committee/ [4]

**Priority Seating**

A student may need priority over seating / position in class to best address their disability related needs,

For example:

- A student with ADHD or who is on the Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) may benefit from a set at the front of class to minimize distractions
- A student with a visual impairment may benefit from a seat positioned directly in front of a white-board to maximize their access to visual materials.
- A student with a hearing impairment may benefit from a seat positioned directly in front of the lecturer to facilitate lip-reading.
- A student with a mobility difficulty or physical disability may need an 'end-of-row' seat.
- A student with some psychological difficulties may need an 'end-of-row' seat to facilitate a sense of safety and control, i.e. knowing that it is possible to extricate him/herself from the situation if necessary.
- A wheelchair user may need an accessible space to be created or 'vacated'.

**SpellChecker**
Spellcheckers, such as the one in MS Word, can certainly be helpful to everyone - both people with and without disabilities. However, the use of these tools is considered a reasonable accommodation only under very specific circumstances.

ARS will only approve use of a spell-check device as a reasonable accommodation for an exam if:

- The students' disability documentation indicates specific cognitive difficulties that would cause them problems with spelling.
- The ability to spell words accurately is not considered an important part of what an exam is designed to test – as determined by the professor and/or the academic department; that is, the fundamental nature / purpose of the test or exam is not being altered.

Source URL: https://ars.unc.edu/accommodations/other-faqs

Links:
[1] https://ars.unc.edu/students/registered-students/professor-notifications-and-test-taking
[2] https://ars.unc.edu/about-ars/contact-us
[3] https://ars.unc.edu/students/request-forms/request-audio-notetaker-loan