

SIUE Disability Support Services is now ACCESS

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EDWARDSVILLE - [Accessible Campus Community & Equitable Student Support \(ACCESS\)](#) is the new name for the former Disability Support Services at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

“We changed the name to better reflect the services we provide,” said Dominic Dorsey, ACCESS director. “Our mission is to provide reasonable accommodations to ensure that diverse learners have access to the University and its programs through proactive and intentional interventions, resources and programming designed to meet federal

compliance guidelines, while removing barriers, encouraging personal growth and increasing effective communication.”

Located in the Student Success Center, Room 1270, ACCESS is dedicated to providing reasonable curricular and co-curricular accommodations to diverse learners with major life impairments at SIUE. Each year, ACCESS assists hundreds of students with a variety of diagnoses as they pursue their academic disciplines.

ACCESS also provides resources that students can use to increase skills in learning, time management and test-taking. Both accommodations and resources are offered to students who have provided appropriate documentation and are approved through the application process.

“ACCESS operates as the bridge between the classroom and the commencement stage with a vision that students should not come to campus merely to attend, but to graduate,” Dorsey said. “Every policy, procedure and resource implemented has been designed to promote self-advocacy, independence and remove the gatekeepers to access as much as possible, leveling the playing field for students.”

The ACCESS office is open Monday-Friday year-round at 8 a.m., and during the fall 2018 semester will have extended hours past 4:30 p.m. to provide testing accommodations for evening courses, as needed. ACCESS is closed on days when the entire University is closed. Students must register and request accommodations from the ACCESS office.

[Southern Illinois University Edwardsville](#) provides students with a high quality, affordable education that prepares them for successful careers and lives of purpose to shape a changing world. Built on the foundation of a broad-based liberal education, and enhanced by hands-on research and real-world experiences, the academic preparation SIUE students receive equips them to thrive in the global marketplace and make our communities better places to live. Situated on 2,660 acres of beautiful woodland atop the bluffs overlooking the natural beauty of the Mississippi River’s rich bottomland and only a short drive from downtown St. Louis, the SIUE campus is home to a diverse student body of nearly 14,000.