



Academic Accessibility

Policy Position #05

This Policy Position was approved by the Board of Directors on 12/02/2018.

WHEREAS the post-secondary education system prioritizes inclusivity as a principal goal;

WHEREAS for students with disabilities, accommodations are human rights, not privileges;

WHEREAS persons with disabilities offer talents and perspectives that enrich Nova Scotia communities socially, economically, and culturally, and must be supported and included for our communities to realize their full potential;

WHEREAS a high-quality post-secondary education should be challenging, but all reasonable efforts should be made to recognize the diversity in how individuals learn;

WHEREAS disability services uptake at universities has risen 109% in ten years, but financial support has not compensated for this increase;

WHEREAS the upfront cost of psycho-educational testing represents a significant barrier for students with limited financial resources, who as a result cannot access disability related financial and academic supports;

WHEREAS the current system prevents students with severely disabling but recoverable or temporary illnesses from accessing supports, even temporarily, from Disability Services, Post Secondary Disability Services and the Federal Government;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Students Nova Scotia advocate for a review of the criteria of existing disability programs in collaboration with post-secondary institutions and students in order to protect the rights of students with disabilities and increase overall accessibility of the system.



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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Students Nova Scotia advocate that all post-secondary institutions in Nova Scotia should have written policy formally addressing accommodations and the rights of students with disabilities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Students Nova Scotia advocate for increased funding for Disability Services Offices to reflect increased service uptake.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Students Nova Scotia advocate for the province to fund psycho-educational assessments for students.

Policy Position #05: Accessibility Services	
Updated: 12/02/2018	Expires: 12/02/2021