

Joint Working Group on Student Accommodations and Faculty Workload, April 2024

Report

UVic has a legal duty to provide equal opportunities for students with permanent disabilities and chronic health conditions to access post-secondary education who are registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) by taking reasonable measures to accommodate them. The duty to accommodate is a shared responsibility, requiring the cooperation of the administration, academic units, and individuals responsible for delivering education and supporting students in their learning, such as faculty and instructors. What constitutes essential requirements of a course or program are determined by the course instructor and is a challenge not unique to UVic.

To address increased faculty workload related to student accommodations and the associated concerns regarding the adequacy of accommodations and resource availability, the University Administration and the Faculty Association established a Joint Working Group on Student Accommodations and Faculty Workload pursuant to a letter of understanding in the Collective Agreement between the University of Victoria Faculty Association and the University of Victoria, July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025 (Appendix R).

The LOU states: The mandate of the Working Group will be to:

- a) review the scope and nature of student accommodation requests and impact on faculty
- b) consider the adequacy of CAL services, identify gaps and make recommendations on
- c) consider the adequacy of CAL services, identify gaps and make recommendations on

with a student population of over 37,000, they have an average of 8,000 accommodated assessments per year, whereas UVic administers about 22,000 accommodated assessments annually in recent years for a student population of just over 22,000.

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Working Group determined that enhancing CAL processes and maintaining current supports for courses and ~~it is a medium-term solution while we work towards long-term solutions, such as establishing a centralized exam center.~~

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- Instructors of First Year Courses Working

a.

