



Academic Resource Center (ARC) Support Services for Students with Learning Differences

How Does De La Salle North Catholic support students with special needs?

De La Salle North Catholic strives to serve a variety of students. To help all students be successful whenever possible there are a wide variety of services and academic interventions that can be utilized to help students experience more academic and/or social success at De La Salle North Catholic (see next page).

De La Salle **cannot** accommodate special needs to the same extent as public schools. Given our limited resources and the private nature of our school, De La Salle does not use the traditional Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) or 504 plans issued by public school districts. For eligible students, we offer a Learning Support Agreement (LSA).

How do I know if my child might be eligible for a De La Salle North Catholic Learning Support Agreement?

For a student to be eligible for a De La Salle North Catholic Learning Support Agreement, the student must have documentation that shows that they meet **all four** of the following criteria:

- A physical or mental impairment (It must be because of this impairment that the student is unable to gain equal access and benefit from school programs and services already in existence.)
- An impairment that **substantially** limits their ability to engage successfully in the general education classroom
- A challenge that restricts one or more major life activities
- And documentation of this challenge or impairment within the last **three years**

Appropriate documentation may include:

- Previous academic testing (psychoeducational exams)
- Previous or current IEP/504 plan from public school district
- Documentation from a healthcare professional (doctor or psychologist)

How can I request a De La Salle North Catholic Learning Support Agreement for my child?

If you believe that your child may be eligible for a De La Salle North Catholic Learning Support Agreement, please contact Mike Duarte, the DLSNC Academic Resource Center (ARC) Coordinator, or the student's DLSNC Counselor. A team of teachers, counselors and administrators will review all available records, as well as teacher assessments of the student's learning, and will determine whether there is appropriate documentation to support the need for accommodations, and whether De La Salle North Catholic is able to make appropriate accommodation(s) for this student.

When De La Salle North Catholic agrees to provide accommodations to a student, they are documented on a **De La Salle North Catholic Learning Support Agreement (LSA)**. This agreement is created at an **Initial Review Meeting** by a team of the student's own parents, teachers, counselors and administrators, and is reviewed annually at an **Annual Review Meeting**.

FOR STUDENTS ON LEARNING SUPPORT AGREEMENTS

We have a limited array of learning accommodations available to our students, *when the need for these accommodations is appropriately documented*. Listed below are some of the accommodations we may be able to provide such students:

- Access to some audio books and texts (Learning Ally)
- Extended time (homework, projects, tests when approved by teachers)
- Alternative assessments (e.g. reduced # problems, oral vs. written)
- Exams in an alternate setting
- Time and a half on tests (50%)
- Testing over multiple days (Chunking tests)
- Access to teacher notes and outlines
- Access to assistive technology in the classroom
- Frequent and consistent check in with counseling support staff

SERVICES AND ACADEMIC INTERVENTIONS AVAILABLE TO ALL STUDENTS

- Tutors (through paid tutors, volunteers, University of Portland, and our DLS National Honor Society)
- Extracurricular activities (Lasallian Youth Ministry, clubs, talent shows, service immersions, volunteer opportunities, drama productions, etc.)
- Athletics
- Preferential seating
- Teacher support and classroom interventions
- Ability to retake tests in some classes
- School counseling services
- Attendance monitoring
- Behavior plans and interventions
- Academic contracts
- Referral to outside tutors, counselors, and community agencies
- Virtual access to grades and assignments (PowerSchool)
- Special scheduling (e.g. Read 180, Guided Studies)

Please feel free to contact **Mike Duarte** by email or phone with questions or concerns.

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