



The Office of Accessibility Newsletter

Saying Goodbye to the Fall 2018 Semester

I hope our fall 2018 semester was successful for you.
A few quick reminders as we approach Finals Week:

- ◆ Take a deep breath, you can do this!
- ◆ If you are planning to use your testing accommodations for your finals, be sure to put in your test requests into STARS as soon as possible.
- ◆ If you need help putting in your requests, check out the tutorials available on the Office of Accessibility Home Page or you can stop into the Office of Accessibility anytime. The folks at the front desk can assist you in putting in your test requests.
- ◆ Before you leave for winter break be sure to have a schedule for the spring 2019 semester.
- ◆ Once you have a schedule for the Spring 2019, you can go into your STARS account and set up your Letters of Accommodation for your spring classes. As a reminder, all Letters of Accommodation for the Spring 2019 semester will go out one week before the start of spring semester.
- ◆ Take time to enjoy the Season!

The staff in the Office of Accessibility wishes each of you the best of the Holiday Season.

We are looking forward to continuing to work with each of you in the Spring 2019 semester.

Kindest regards,

Kelly Kulick
Director
Office of Accessibility

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Important Reminders:

It's not too Early to Submit your Final Exam Schedule in STARS! If you are planning to use your testing accommodations for final exams, make sure to submit your test requests **as soon as possible**. Space is extremely limited; it is critical that you put in your exam requests immediately!

- Remember to schedule any finals to be taken in the Office of Accessibility or the Counseling and Testing Center through STARS at least **4 business days** in advance.

Don't Forget to Register for Spring 2019 Classes! Registration for Spring 2019 classes has begun. Don't forget to register for classes if you have not already done so. If you need assistance, schedule a meeting with your Academic Advisor for help and questions about your Spring 2019 schedule.

Once you have scheduled classes for Spring 2019, **don't forget to request your accommodations** online through [STARS!](#)

Disabilities Awareness Week 2018

We wanted to thank the University of Akron community for helping to make Disabilities Awareness Week 2018, such a success!

We hope you were able to attend one or more events during Disabilities Awareness Week October 29- November 2, 2018. Our office, in collaboration with other offices on campus, helped raise awareness about disability-related issues to the campus community. Events included a photo booth, an event to help “Grow Acceptance” with free succulents, a pumpkin decorating event called “Let’s Talk About Disabilities... There’s Nothing Spooky About It” including disability-related facts, a performance by comedian Samuel J. Comroe, and finally a visit from the WagTime Therapy dogs from Summa Hospital.

If you have any ideas for future Disabilities Awareness Week events, please contact our office. We welcome suggestions and would love to have more student involvement!

Stay tuned next fall for information about Disabilities Awareness Week 2019. We hope to see you there!



Seeking Participants for PULSe ASD Research Program

Productive Uncertainty in a Laboratory Setting: Engaging Students With Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) in Scientific Research

This program is a part of The University of Akron’s Five Star Fridays Initiative. A total of two candidates will be selected for this program. Applicants for this program must be matriculated at The University of Akron. The ASD student participant will be selected through the Office of Accessibility to be a research assistant in the group of Dr. Ruel McKenzie in the Department of Polymer Engineering in the College of Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering. The research assistant will be given the opportunity to develop an exploratory research project of their own interest under the guidance of Dr. McKenzie. The program will be tiered into discrete levels over the course of the academic year to nurture the capacity for the student to productively manage uncertainty in a laboratory setting.

Targeted Participants:

- One matriculated student who has an Autism Spectrum Disorder
- One matriculated student from the Special Education/Intervention Specialist program

Application Window:

-November 9, 2018-December 14, 2018

Program Timeline:

- 15 Weeks (every Friday—exact day and times are flexible)
- January 25, 2019-May 10, 2019

For more information and to apply, visit <https://uakron.edu/cpspe/pulse-asd>.

Request Your Accommodations for Spring 2019

I've signed up for my Spring 2019 classes, do I need to do anything for the Office of Accessibility?

YES, you are responsible for requesting your accommodations EVERY semester.

If you would like to use your accommodations through the Office of Accessibility for your classes during the Spring 2019 semester, you **MUST** request your accommodations in STARS. Please see the step-by-step instructions below to help you request your accommodations.

1. Log-in to STARS by going to <https://www.uakron.edu/access> and clicking "Request Accommodations".
2. Scroll down to the "Select Accommodations for Your Class" box.
3. Check the boxes of the course(s) you would like to utilize your accommodations for during the Spring 2019 semester.
4. Click on "Step 2-Continue to Customize Your Accommodations".
5. Within the "Select Accommodation(s) for _____" box for each class, check the boxes of the accommodations you would like to utilize for that class during the Spring 2019 semester.
6. Once you have selected which accommodations you would like for each class, click the "Submit Your Accommodation Requests" button.

Be sure to submit your accommodation requests for Spring 2019 **EARLY**. **In order to ensure that we have time to coordinate your accommodations, submit your accommodation requests AT LEAST 4 weeks before the start of the Spring 2019 semester.**

Please note that STARS typically takes about 48 hours to update, and the classes that you have signed up for may take some time to appear in STARS.

Prepare for Finals Week

Here are 6 tips to help you prepare for finals week:

1. **Verify the details**—Know your exam schedule in advance. To view your exam schedule:
 - Log in to My Akron
 - Click on Student Center
 - In the Academics section, select Exam Schedule from the drop down list and click the forward button. If it is available, it will be displayed. Confirm this schedule with your instructors.
2. **Get some sleep**—Do not pull an all nighter. Make sure you get a lot of rest while studying and a good night's sleep the night before an exam.
3. **Stay active**—Exercise boosts blood flow to the brain, and sitting in one place for an extended period of time can lead to a tired, ill-supplied mind.
4. **Eat well**—Eat foods that are digested slowly: whole grains, fresh vegetables, and lean proteins. A little planning can go a long way as you head into finals week. Before a final, be sure to eat a meal that is high in protein.
5. **Experiment with different methods of studying**—One way of studying may not be efficient to retain so much information. Try switching subjects to study, study in groups, do practice exercises, study your notes, etc. Switch it up.

Important Dates

Dec. 9, 2018
Final Instructional Day for Fall 2018 classes

Dec. 10-14, 2018
Fall 2018 Finals Week

Dec. 15, 2018
Fall 2018 Commencement

Dec. 18; 24, 2018–Jan. 1, 2019
OA closed

Jan. 14, 2019
Spring classes begin!

Important Reminders for Final Exam Requests:

- ◆ **Final exam requests need to be submitted through STARS at least one week in advance.** It is very important that you submit your final exam requests early, so we can coordinate space and proctors for you.
- ◆ **Show up to your scheduled exams a couple minutes early** to give the staff time to prep your exam.
- ◆ **Be sure to communicate with your instructors** if you will have scheduling issues due to your extended time.
- ◆ **When submitting your final exam requests, make sure you will finish your exam WITH your extended time by 4:55PM.** The Office of Accessibility and Counseling & Testing Center close at 5PM.

We are experiencing a high volume of test requests this semester—this makes it EXTRA important that you submit your final exam requests early.

Internship, Co-op, and Job Opportunities on Handshake

Students seeking part-time, full-time, internship, or co-op positions should visit Handshake, UA's online job board. Students and alumni can view all job openings through their Handshake account at <http://uakron.joinhandshake.com>.

For assistance with applying, including a resume review, cover letter review, mock interview and more, students can visit Career Services in Jean Hower Taber Student Union 211.

Inclement Weather at UA

In the event of inclement weather, The University of Akron grounds crew works to clear the necessary paths around campus of snow and ice. While their top priorities are clearing accessible ramps and building entrances, please know that if there is heavy snowfall, it can be difficult to keep up with snow accumulation. In the event that you are not able to access a particular place on campus, please call the UAPD Dispatch line to report the issue at 330-972-7415.



Suggestion Box

We want your feedback!

Email nab87@uakron.edu with comments about the current newsletter or ideas you would like to see in future newsletters.

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Simmons Hall at The University of Akron