



# The Office of Accessibility Newsletter

Welcome back to The University of Akron as we begin the Spring 2019 semester.

We are SO glad you are here. The University of Akron is a great place to be! The faculty, staff and everyone who works at the University of Akron embrace the phrase... "You Are UA."

Sounds good, but what does that mean for you?

It means tutoring centers that are ready to assist you in your classes. It means a nationally recognized counseling center that is there when you need someone to talk with. It's the faculty who hold office hours to help when you are stuck on a concept or theory. It's the ZipAssist Office that can guide you through all aspects of what it means to be a student at The University of Akron.

It means the Office of Accessibility is here to help you in and out of the classroom as you work to mitigate the symptoms of your disability. Whether that means helping you send out your Letters of Accommodation for your spring classes, assisting you in submitting your test requests through STARS, or helping you organize your spring semester—we are here to help you!

Spring is the time of fresh starts, new beginnings and new expectations. Take control of your classes early, set up a schedule for studying and self care. Make sure you are taking advantage of all the resources the University has to offer. The faculty is in place, the tutoring center is ready to go, are you ready to make this your best semester ever? I know you are and we are here to help you realize your dreams.

Come see us and Go ZIPS !!!!!

Kindest regards,

The Office of Accessibility Team

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## Financial Assistance Program Aids UA Students in Need

The SEFA program, supported by the Ascendium Education Group's Dash Emergency Grant, allows the University, through its ZipAssist Office, to provide one-time emergency grant monies (non-tuition assistance) to students in time of need.

SEFA grants are most commonly used by students for car repairs to ensure they can get to campus or work, for groceries, or for rent assistance. It is making a big difference in the lives of its recipients.

Information about ZipAssist, including referral forms for SEFA and its other programs, can be found online at <https://uakron.edu/zipassist/>.

## College Survival Kit

The Counseling and Testing Center is hosting a variety of workshops to provide you with information and practical skills to help you succeed in college. **Topics include:**

- **Taking Care Week**
- **Developing Relationships**
- **Reduce Test Anxiety**
- **How to Earn Better Grades**
- **Career Planning and Decision Making**
- **Suicide Prevention**



Counseling &  
Testing Center

Please sign up in advance for these workshops: **Counseling and Testing Center**- Simmons Hall 306, (phone) 330-972-7082

Visit <https://www.uakron.edu/counseling/docs/SurvivalKitSpring2019.pdf> for event details

## **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. Hundreds of employment opportunities are posted daily.

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.

## **Winter Weather at UA**

The winter weather has arrived on campus! In addition to taking extra precautions while driving and walking around campus, students should also be aware of possible class cancellations due to inclement weather. The decision to close will be made as early as possible. News of closing will be disseminated several ways:

- ◆ **Radio and TV:** Closing information will be provided to major radio and television stations in Akron, Canton and Cleveland.
- ◆ **On the Web:** Closing information will be posted on the University's home page.
- ◆ **E-mail:** A message will be sent to students' and employees' University mailboxes.
- ◆ **Text messaging:** To further enhance safety on campus, UA will automatically enroll you in our Z-Alert emergency text-messaging service this month. If you want to unsubscribe, reply STOP to any message you receive. Questions? Write to [zalert@uakron.edu](mailto:zalert@uakron.edu).
- ◆ **By phone:** The University's emergency information phone line is updated around the clock as conditions warrant. The number is 330-972-SNOW (7669) or 330-972-6238 (TDD/Voice).

If you are having accessibility and/or mobility issues due to snow or ice on campus, please feel free to call the Office of Accessibility for assistance! We will help to resolve these issues by working with other University departments on campus.



## 2019 LIFE Awards

Are you a student leader on campus? Someone who is highly involved and always goes above and beyond? Are you a member of an outstanding student organization or club sport? Apply for the LIFE Awards!

The LIFE (Legacy, Integrity, Fellowship, & Excellence) Awards are held annually, honoring students, faculty, and campus organizations that have demonstrated the LIFE values.

Applications for the 2019 LIFE Awards will be available January 18th through March 1st on OrgSync. To apply, you must submit an application through one of three OrgSync Forms:

### LIFE Awards – Individual Application 2019

- <https://orgsync.com/22452/forms/342662>

### LIFE Awards – Organization & Team Application 2019

- <https://orgsync.com/22452/forms/342670>

### LIFE Awards – Recommendation Application 2019

- <https://orgsync.com/22452/forms/342665>

All applications are due no later than 5:00 pm Friday, March 1st, 2019.

For a description of the awards please go to:  
<https://www.uakron.edu/studentlife/involvement/campusprograms/life-awards/life-awards-description.dot>

Questions? Please contact Brittany Ferguson-Mike at [bpf9@uakron.edu](mailto:bpf9@uakron.edu) for more info.

## Important Dates

**January 21, 2019**  
MLK Jr. Day—Univ. Closed

**February 19, 2019**  
President's Day Observance, classes cancelled; Univ. Open

**March 25– 31 2019**  
Spring Recess

**May 5, 2019**  
Final Instructional Day

**May 6-12, 2019**  
Final Exams Week

**May 10-12, 2019**  
Spring 2019 Commencement



## Testing in the Computer Based Assessment and Evaluation Center

Students who are taking exams at Computer Based Assessment and Evaluation (CBA&E) must confirm with the instructor at the beginning of the semester that they will be using their exam accommodations. Students will need to provide CBA&E with a copy of their accommodation letter. Accommodation letters may be printed from your STARS account.

Students who wish to utilize testing accommodations need to:  
Call CBA&E at 330-972-6511 x3 to reserve the distraction-reduced testing room in Schrank Hall North 152.

If a reader or scribe is required, request testing accommodations in STARS AND notify CBA&E that you will have a reader or scribe present. You must select the time extension (OA) when you submit the request. Please make a note that the exam will take place in CBA&E in the Additional Comments section of the Alternative Testing request form. Also, please meet your reader/scribe in Schrank Hall North room 153; from there you will be escorted to your testing space.

## Spring Student Organization Involvement Fair: Feb. 6-7, 2019

The Spring Involvement Fair is an opportunity for University of Akron students to learn about the many involvement opportunities on campus from the variety of student organizations on campus. The event will take place Wednesday, February 6th and Thursday, February 7th.

Come to the Jean Hower Taber Student Union between 11 am and 1 pm on both days to visit with a handful of student organizations located on the 2nd floor concourse and the lounges surrounding Starbucks.

Questions? Contact the SOuRCe at [source5@uakron.edu](mailto:source5@uakron.edu)



## Applications for I-Corps Sites Available Now

Applications for the Spring 2019 cohort of I-Corps Sites are open now! I-Corps is a 7-week program sponsored by the National Science Foundation aimed at helping teams perform customer discovery and commercialize their innovations. Applications for student entrepreneurs, faculty inventors, and non-university community members can all be found at <http://www.uakronuarf.com/i-corps.html>.

Don't have a service or product you are trying to bring to market, but still want to take part in the program? Simply fill out a student entrepreneur application and we will match you up with a team. By the end of 7 weeks, you will have gained experience performing market research, customer interviews, and the ins and outs of product-market fit. It's a perfect way to make use of your #FiveStarFriday.

Email your completed application to [UAicorps@gmail.com](mailto:UAicorps@gmail.com) by February 1 to join this cycle of I-Corps Sites!

## Suggestion Box

We want your feedback!

Email [nab87@uakron.edu](mailto:nab87@uakron.edu) with comments about the current newsletter or ideas you would like to see in future newsletters.

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Spring Office Hours:  
Monday- Friday 8 a.m.- 5 p.m.

