

Process for Requesting a Language Alternate

Students with learning, speech, hearing, or other disabilities that significantly impact the ability to acquire a language, other than their primary language, may request a course alternate for a language requirement. Having a learning disability alone is not a valid predictor of success with language acquisition. Some students with learning disabilities may be successful in learning. If there is a barrier to acquiring a language you may be eligible for a language alternate.

How to Request / Processing of Request:

Requests will be considered at any point during the student's academic program; however, requests made near the completion of the program may delay graduation.

1. Consult advisor or academic program about the language requirements of degree program.
2. Submit documentation to the Office of Accessibility Services. See the HOW TO BEGIN section of the OAS site.
3. Submit supporting documentation from a diagnostician which clearly demonstrates a significant difficulty with language-based tasks in reading, spelling, writing, speaking, or listening that impact language acquisition
4. Submit a brief personal statement describing the barriers to acquiring a language.
5. All requests and supporting documentation/statements for a Language Alternate must be submitted digitally through our secure file transfer link:
<https://filetransfer.simmons.edu/form/OAS>
6. Schedule a meeting with the OAS to review your request by reaching access@simmons.edu.
7. Two – four weeks is required to evaluate / review language alternate requests and all related documentation/statements.
8. OAS informs the Advising Office and the Registrar's Office of the approval or denial of the request based on the submitted documentation, the diagnosis presented, the diagnostician's recommendation.
9. The Advising Office will share the Language Alternate list of offerings with the approved student.
10. OAS recommends that students keep records of their required Language Alternate courses.