



Services for Students with Disabilities
Student Advisory Committee

Name of Committee: SSD Student Advisory Committee

Purpose: The SSD Student Advisory Committee provides a way for SSD to receive direct input from UT students in order to: 1) help SSD better meet the needs of UT students with disabilities 2) foster leadership skills in UT students with interests in disabilities and 3) encourage student advocacy for disability awareness and disability-related issues on campus.

Description of Advisory Committee: The committee will be facilitated by SSD Staff. The SSD staff facilitators and the committee members will set the agenda, with input from other SSD staff members. Agenda items will include but not be limited to soliciting feedback on best ways to engage students with disabilities, how to improve the accommodation process on campus, SSD programs and services, and/or publicity and stigma reduction. Meetings will occur monthly for 1.5 hours.

Committee Composition: Student membership will consist of students who represent the Student Government Association, the Senate of College Councils, and the Graduate Student Assembly as well as “at large” student members. Student Government, the Senate of College Councils and the Graduate Student Assembly will nominate one student representative to the committee, with final approval resting with SSD. In addition, up to ten “at large” students will be recruited for and chosen from the general student population. SSD will recruit at large students from UT academic departments, disability-related student organizations, and broadly advertise these positions on campus.

Other SSD staff may be invited to attend committee meetings as well.

Student Membership Requirements: The duration of the advisory committee term is one year. Students who are appointed by Student Government, the Senate of College Councils and the Graduate Student Assembly can be reappointed with approval from SSD or new representatives may be chosen from these three groups. Students in “at large” positions can reapply for the next year’s committee membership.

Students will serve from the beginning of the fall semester through the end of the next spring semester (1 year). Requirements for student membership are: 1) current enrollment as a UT-Austin student 2) availability to meet at the committee meeting time, and 3) commitment to making a positive contribution to the awareness and experience of UT students with disabilities.

Students who miss more than two meetings may be asked to step down from the committee. Vacant spots may be filled at the discretion of SSD.