

Disability Support Services  
7630 Little River Turnpike  
Suite 812  
Annandale, VA 22003

Academic Year 2020-21

Dear NOVA Parent/Guardian,

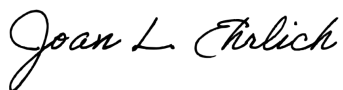
Congratulations on your son or daughter's accomplishments! Thank you for supporting their choice to attend Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA). We are committed to providing students with the resources and support they need to be successful, including accommodations needed to access their education at NOVA.

As your son or daughter moves forward into college, I believe we share the common goal of seeing them graduate as independent adults who are able to navigate the system independently. To that end, I hope that you will work with us as they learn to negotiate the academic process, including working with the Disability Support Services (DSS) office, on their own.

The environment at NOVA is very different from what you and your son or daughter experienced in high school. The laws that govern accommodations differ between high school and college and students now need to learn to advocate for themselves and take responsibility for their own learning. To assist you with the transition, please see the [Transition Guide for Parents of Students with Disabilities: Differences between K-12 and College](#). We also recommend this guide, published by the Office for Civil Rights, within the United State Department of Education: [Students with Disabilities Preparing for Postsecondary Education: Know Your Rights and Responsibilities](#)

I hope that we can work together to support your son or daughter's transition from relying on parent advocacy to functioning independently. We look forward to serving your student.

Sincerely,



Joan L. Ehrlich, Ph. D.  
Director, Disability Support Services  
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