

2017-2018 Academic Year

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. Not only do the laws that govern accommodations differ between high school and college, 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 attached parent resource "Transition Guide for Parents of Students with Disabilities: Differences between K-12 and College." Visit the following link for more information: <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/transition.html>

I hope that we can work together to support students' transition from relying on parent advocacy to functioning independently.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth P. Harper, Ph.D.  
Associate Vice President for Student Services and Enrollment Management  
Northern Virginia Community College

**STUDENT SERVICES AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT**