

LEGISLATIVE MANDATES

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended in 1998 states that:

No otherwise **qualified individual** with a disability in the United States shall, solely by reason of his or her disability, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 states that:

No **qualified individual** with a disability shall by reason of such disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs or activities of a public entity, or be subjected to discrimination by such entity.

Qualified, in the context of a college setting means, “meets the academic and technical standards requisite to admission or participation in the education program or activity” with or without the use of reasonable accommodations, auxiliary aids or services.

A person with a **disability** means:

Any person who has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities (including walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, working, caring for oneself, and performing manual tasks).

The ADA Amendments of 2008 extends the definition of **major life activity** to:

The operation of major bodily functions, included but not limited to functions of the immune system, normal cell growth, digestive, bowel, bladder, neurological, brain, respiratory, circulatory, endocrine and reproductive functions.