

Grievance Procedure

Morehouse School of Medicine is committed to a policy of ensuring that no otherwise qualified individual with a disability is excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or subjected to discrimination in School programs or activities due to his or her disability. MSM is fully committed to complying with all requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) as amended by the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendment Act (ADAAA), as amended, and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (section 504) and to providing equal educational opportunities to otherwise qualified students with disabilities.

Any MSM student who believes that he or she has been denied academic adjustments required by law shall have the right to invoke the Grievance Procedure. This Grievance Procedure is designed to address disagreements or denials regarding requested services, academic adjustments, or modifications to School academic practices or requirements.

The Grievance Procedure is not intended and shall not supersede other MSM policies and procedures, which may exist for addressing alleged violations of ADA and/or Section 504, and other issues of concern for which separate School policies and procedures exist, including for example, academic deficiencies. Students are encouraged to consult with the Manager of the Office of Disability Services (ODS) regarding the most appropriate School policy or procedure to address a particular concern.

Informal Grievance Procedure

With respect to any grievance covered under this policy and as a prerequisite to initiating one of the formal grievance procedures, a student shall first attempt to resolve his or her complaint informally by meeting with the Manager of the ODS. If the grievance is not resolved informally, then the student shall have the right to invoke the appropriate formal grievance procedure detailed below.

Formal Grievance Procedure for the Denial of Academic Accommodations and Services

1. An otherwise qualified student with a disability, as defined by the ADA and the Rehabilitation Act, shall have the right to request that MSM's Chief Compliance Officer review the denial of any requested academic accommodation or service.
2. The Chief Compliance Officer or his/ her designee shall assess the formal complaint and review all information necessary to render a written determination. If requested, the student shall supply any additional information and/or documentation as requested by the Chief Compliance Officer or designee. The Chief Compliance Officer or designee will issue a written Letter of Determination on the student's Review Request.
3. If the student disagrees with the Chief Compliance Officer's determination, the student may seek a review with the Dean and Executive Vice President. The student shall submit a written letter requesting a review of the complaint.

4. The Dean and Executive Vice President shall review the student's letter, all pertinent records, and documentation. After completing the review, the Dean and Executive Vice President will provide a letter of determination to the student.

Office of Civil Rights (OCR) Complaint

Although students are encouraged to attempt to resolve complaints pertaining to disabilities by using this Grievance Procedure, they have the right to file a complaint directly with the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR).