

# Accommodations in Graduate School

## Disability Services

*February, 27, 2017*



University of Colorado  
Boulder

**Be Boulder.**

# Department Philosophy

“Disability Services provides leadership and guidance regarding accommodations and universal access, which requires a collaborative relationship among all members of the university community.”

# Social Model

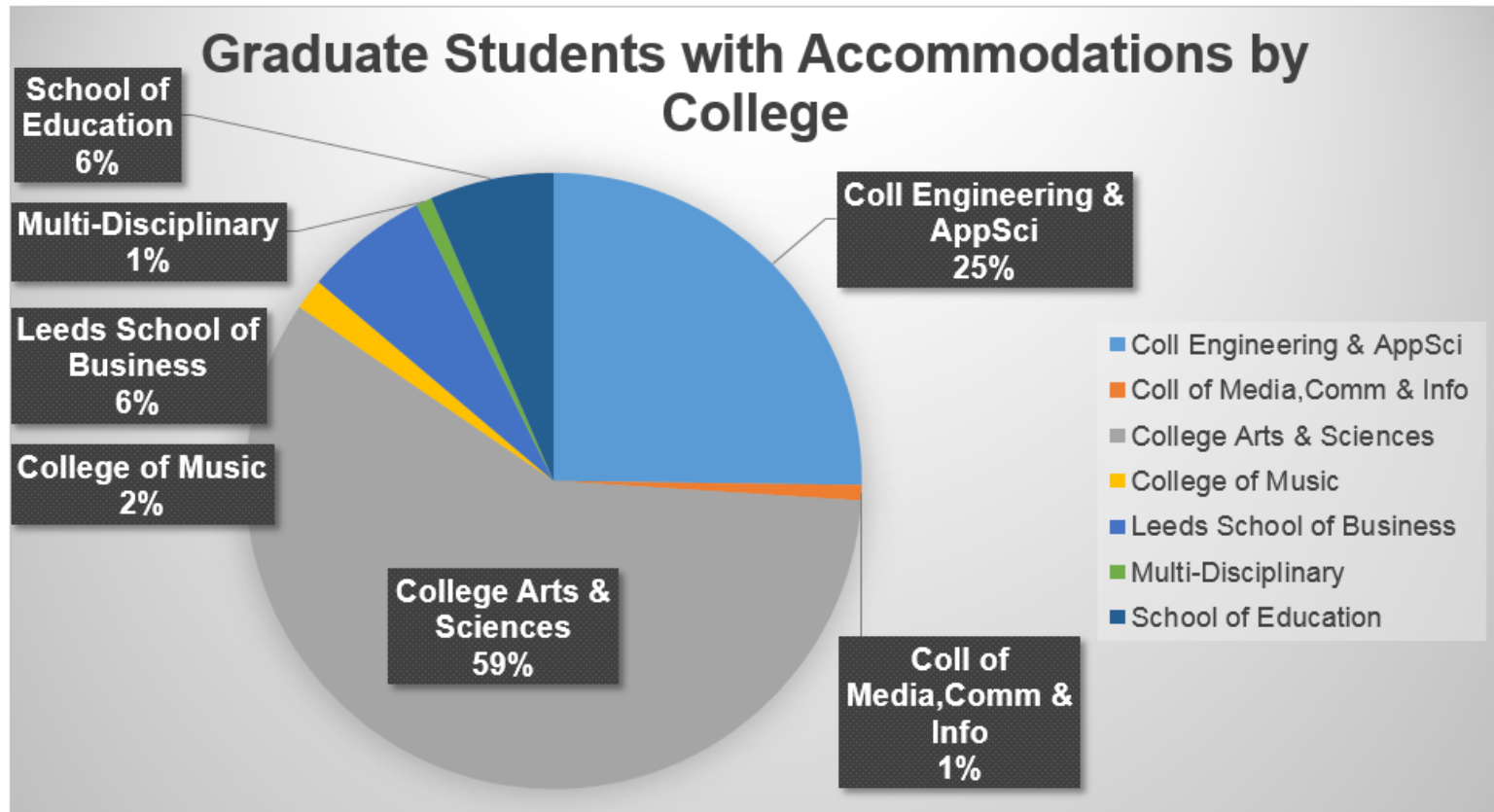
- Student's voice is core to academic access
- Embraces Universal Design in Learning (UDL)
- Promotes a pro-active approach to identifying and removing barriers
- Promotes and aligns with Inclusive Excellence
- Retains aspects of medical information key to determining eligibility for accommodation and barrier removal
- Provides a framework for excellence for the entire campus

# Multiple Roles



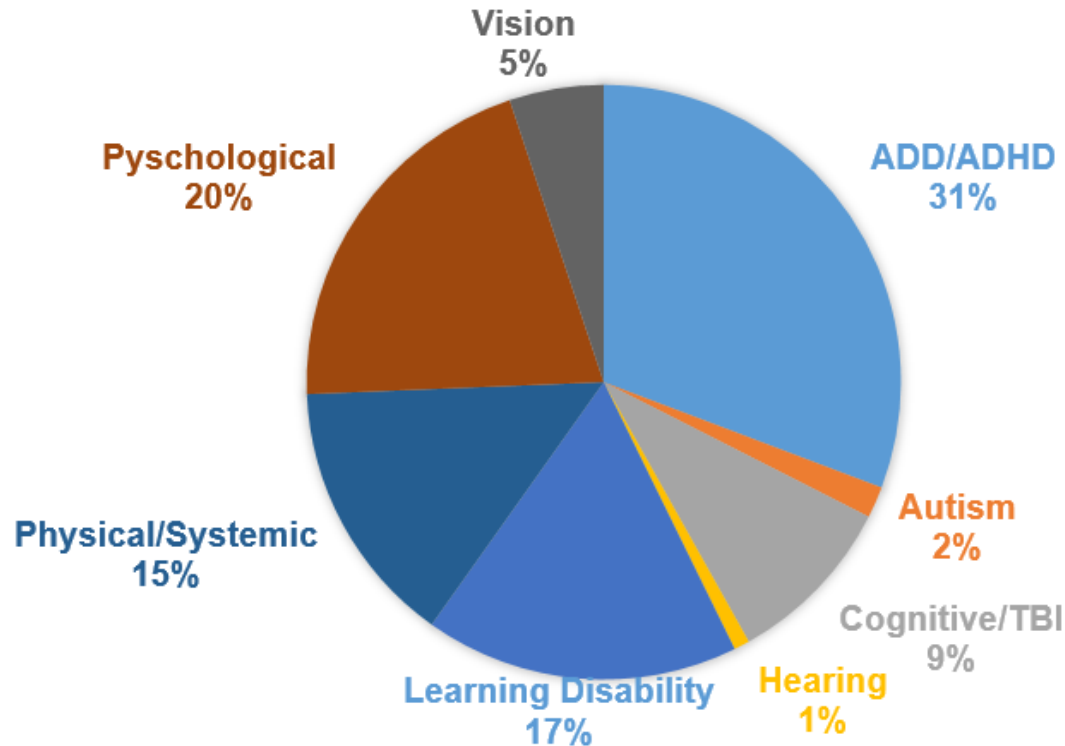
# Graduate Statistics

Enrolled: 104 – Registered: 123



# Graduate Statistics

## GRADUATE STUDENTS BY DISABILITY



# What Makes Graduate Students Different?

## Undergraduates

- Testing of knowledge
- General course work preparation and study

## Graduates

- Independent research
- Interpretation of research
- Outcomes based on results
- Professional orientation to field of study.

# Partnership with Faculty

- Review program requirements to determine:
  - Essential program requirements
  - Learning outcomes are clear
  - Alternate ways to perform course requirements, if needed



# Find a Group

- 4 people per group
- Using the partnership model of Disability Services and faculty, determine how your group would address each scenario.
- Identify a leader
- Identify a facilitator
- Identify a reporter

# Scenario 1

## Course outcomes

**Student request: To attempt comprehensive exam a 3<sup>rd</sup> time with accommodation**

- PhD student enrolled in professional program
- Last semester of coursework completed
- Student has attempted comprehensive exam 2 times and not passed.
- Student has a 3.8 GPA for CU work
- Policy says student cannot take exam more than 2 times.

# Scenario 2

## Essential Requirements

### **Student request: Flexibility in Attendance**

- Student enrolled in a professional program
- Enrolled in a “clinic” where the student meets with at-risk clients
- Functional requirement to be present for appointments
- Student has been granted flexibility with attendance in other coursework.

# Scenario 3

## Cohort Policies

- **Student request: An additional year to complete program**
- Doctoral level candidate enrolled in a program that requires a cohort to participate.
- Student did well during the 1<sup>st</sup> of a 4 year program with no difficulties.
- Student now diagnosed with a medical condition that requires a reduction in hours to continue.
- Program is structured in 2 or 4 year cohorts and does not allow for changes.

# Reporting Back

- Faculty – How did you handle the scenario?
- DS Providers – How did you handle the scenario?
- How would DS partner with faculty to resolve this issue?

# Thank You

John Meister – Director of Disability Services

303-492-5602 – [john.meister@colorado.edu](mailto:john.meister@colorado.edu)

Jill Sieben-Schneider – Assistant Director

303-492-4125 – [jill.schneider@colorado.edu](mailto:jill.schneider@colorado.edu)

Joe Andenmatten – Senior Access Team Manager

303-492-7808 – [joe.andenmatten@colorado.edu](mailto:joe.andenmatten@colorado.edu)

[www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices](http://www.colorado.edu/disabilityservices)

303-492-8671

