

Accessibility Resources Appeal Policy

Academy of Art University is committed to providing an inclusive environment for students with disabilities in alignment with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. The Department of Accessibility Resources ensures equal opportunity to university curriculum, programs, and facilities for students with disabilities.

Accommodations or reasonable adjustments can be made to provide students with equal access to the university and to help protect individuals with disabilities from discrimination. The evaluation and determination of accommodations is an interactive, individualized process aimed at developing accommodations that are appropriate, reasonable, and effective.

These procedures are not intended to replace or duplicate existing grievance procedures under the university's nondiscrimination and anti-harassment policies.

Informal Appeal

If there are concerns about the determination or provision of reasonable accommodations or their fulfillment, students are encouraged to promptly notify Accessibility Resources staff. Accessibility Resources will assist the student with identifying resolutions and mediate with faculty, department, or program as necessary. Most concerns can be resolved in this way. If students feel their concern has not been properly resolved, they may file a formal appeal.

Formal Appeal Procedures

A formal appeal is available to students who have first attempted to resolve the issue through informal resolution. The appeal should be filed within 30 days of the date of the decision. The student will initiate the appeal process by providing a written statement to the Vice President of Compliance, Anne Connors, AConnors@academyart.edu. The written statement must include:

- 1. The issue of disagreement
- 2. Detailed summary of the pertinent facts that meet the above criteria for a formal appeal
- 3. The substantive reason(s) the student disagrees with the decision
- 4. The date of the action that the student is appealing
- 5. The student's desired outcome.

The Vice President of Compliance will confirm receipt of the written statement within 5 business days. The appeal will be reviewed in a timely manner, approximately 15 days. All parties will be notified in writing of the decision of the appeal. The Vice President of Compliance



may request additional documents or information from the student or consult with other university staff or faculty as appropriate.

Academy of Art University reserves the right to amend these policies at any time as circumstances require.