

General Overview of Academic Concession and Academic Accommodation

Included in the Academic Calendar are policies governing the grant of Academic Concession and Academic Accommodation at the University of Victoria. What follows is a general overview of how these policies are operationalized in the Faculty of Law. Additional information is included in the UVic Law Students and Academic Matters website.

Academic Concession

A student whose academic performance is affected by injury, family or personal affliction, or illness may be eligible for ***academic concession***. Academic concession also may be granted to accommodate religious observance and dependent care. Examples of academic concessions include an extension of time to complete an assignment, a deferral of an examination date, and withdrawal from a course without academic penalty.

The grant of academic concession in the Faculty of Law is governed by the University of Victoria's [Academic Concession policy](#), albeit with modified process. It is not necessary for a law student to submission a Request for Academic Concession in the form prescribed in that policy.

Instead, law students may ask an instructor for individual accommodation within a specific course. Alternatively, at the student or instructor's discretion, requests for accommodation may be submitted to Yvonne Lawson, Manager of Academic Administration and Student Services. She is authorized to grant certain requests and refer others to the Associate Dean, Academic & Students Relations for decision.

Either way, a student who is denied academic concession may ask for that decision to be reviewed. A student may further appeal to the Senate Committee on Appeals.

Academic Accommodation

A student whose academic performance is impaired by disability, chronic health issues or similar potential barriers may be eligible for ongoing ***academic accommodation***. Examples of academic accommodation include note-taking supports, access to adaptive technology in the classroom, and extensions on exam writing times. The grant of academic accommodation is generally managed through the University of Victoria's [Centre for Accessible Learning](#). Students are expected to contact the Centre for Accessible Learning, and to work with specialist staff there to identify academic supports appropriate for their condition. Yvonne Lawson liaises with students and instructors to ensure those supports are provided in each course.

In those cases where academic accommodation is not available through the Centre for Accessible Learning, the Faculty of Law offers ***examination accommodation*** in the form of additional exam writing time to incoming students with demonstrated academic need. This accommodation is available for 1L courses with timed examinations of four hours or less. Comparable accommodation may be available in upper year courses if there is continued academic need. That need is assessed by the Dean of Law on the basis of the student's academic record and any self-reported circumstances of adversity that produce academic disadvantage in the exam setting.

A student who is denied academic accommodation may ask for that decision to be reviewed. A student may further appeal to the Senate Committee on Appeals.