



# Disability Support Services Quarterly Newsletter

Please visit our website: [www.ctcd.edu/disability-support](http://www.ctcd.edu/disability-support)

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## Contact Information

### DSS Office Location, Phone & Fax Numbers:

Building 111, Room 111  
Phone: (254) 526-1195  
Toll free: 1-800-792-3348  
Extension 1195  
Fax: (254) 526-1700

### DSS Office Hours:

Mon.-Thurs. 7:30 am.-5:30 p.m.  
Fri. 7:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

### DSS Team:

Dr. Christy Shank  
DSS Director

Wilma Brown-Smith  
DSS Coordinator

Ron Porter DSS  
Coordinator

Stephanie Rawlins  
DSS Office Specialist II

## Important Dates & Events

March 9 - 13, 2020  
Spring Break

March 17, 2020  
CTC's Vet Success Benefits Expo

April 1, 2020  
CTC's Wellness Fair

April 15, 2020  
CTC's Career Fair

May 8, 2020  
CTC's Spring 2020 Graduation

For this edition of the DSS Quarterly Newsletter, DSS would like to continue to highlight all the great campus resources available for students to help them be successful! This edition also reviews Title IX rights for pregnant students and responsibilities of the college when working with pregnant students.

Each newsletter will include information on various disability topics, dates to remember, and more! We will also offer tips and strategies for the classroom environment, ways to enhance the academic experience, supportive resources/ links, and much more! It is our goal to use this newsletter to disseminate useful information to staff, faculty, and students.

Any questions, comments, and suggestions can be sent to:  
[srawlins@ctcd.edu](mailto:srawlins@ctcd.edu)

## DSS Mission Statement

DSS is committed to assisting the college so that individuals with disabilities are assured an equal opportunity to participate in, contribute to, and benefit from all college programs, services, and activities. DSS supports individuals with disabilities by coordinating reasonable accommodations and services. We are committed to providing equal access to higher education for academically qualified individuals with disabilities.

## Quote of the Quarter

*"Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time."*

~ Thomas A Edison

## DSS Update

**DSS HAS MOVED!** Our new location is Building 111, Room 111

## **CTC's Campus Resources for Students**

- \* **Disability Support Services** (Bldg. 111; 254-526-1195): Provides academic accommodations to students with qualifying disabilities!
- \* **Academic Studio** (Bldg. 106; 254-526-1580): Tutoring services, academic advising, information and resource referrals, college success and study skills workshops, and textbook and childcare assistance for qualified Career and Technical Education students!
- \* **Career Services Center** (Bldg. 118; 254-526-1106): Assists with all phases of the career planning and job search process, including career assessments, resume critiques, and mock interviews!
- \* **Library** (Bldg. 102; 254-526-1621): Services include Ask a Librarian, research paper reviews, multimedia lab, teaching learning center, and research study guides!
- \* **Student & Employee Assistance Program** (Bldg. 158; 254-526-1166): Offers free counseling services to students and staff to overcome issues of personal, educational, or professional concerns!

## **Featured Topic: Title IX Pregnancy Rights of Students & Responsibilities of the College**

Pregnancy related absences that are deemed medically necessary by a medical provider and/or leave from school due to child birth/recovery are protected under Title IX federal law. Students needing their pregnancy related absences, childbirth, and/or maternity leave excused are REQUIRED to submit medical documentation to DSS.

### **Classes and School Activities – your school MUST:**

Allow you to continue participating in classes and extracurricular activities even though you are pregnant.

Provide you with reasonable adjustments, like allowing you to make frequent trips to the restroom, when necessary because of your pregnancy (student is responsible for requesting pregnancy-related accommodations through DSS if accommodations are needed and will be required to submit medical documentation for pregnancy-related accommodations).

### **Excused Absences and Medical Leave – your school MUST:**

Excuse absences due to pregnancy or childbirth for as long as your doctor says it is necessary (student required to submit medical documentation to DSS).

Allow you to return to the same academic and extracurricular status as before your medical leave began, which should include giving you the opportunity to make up any work missed while you were out.

Your instructor may not refuse to allow you to submit work after a deadline you missed because of pregnancy or childbirth. If grading is based in part on class participation or attendance and you missed class because of pregnancy or childbirth, you should be allowed to make up the participation or attendance credits you didn't have the chance to earn.

The school may offer the student alternatives to making up missed work, such as retaking a semester, or allowing the student additional time in a program to continue at the same pace and finish at a later date, especially after longer periods of leave. The student should be allowed to choose how to make up the work. The student cannot be required to turn in work while on approved maternity leave.