Validating need

The need for support for an injury or illness is validated by any one of the following:

- The illness or injury is visible to the naked eye and clearly an impediment to academic performance.
- The student visited a physician who diagnosed and documented the illness or injury, its expected duration, and means for attending to it.
- The student’s parents are aware of the injury or illness and are requesting JHU’s assistance in addressing it.

* Injuries and illnesses with short durations (i.e. prognosis for recovery in 5 days or less) and limited or isolated effects (e.g. one day of class absences, one missed exam, etc.) are handled by the Dean of Students’ Office.

Common Types of Requested Assistance

- Assistance with academic responsibilities (e.g. extended testing time, notes, a scribe, etc.)
- Transportation either to-and-from campus or around campus *
- Advocacy with professors (i.e. a request for flexibility with class attendance, tardiness, and/or assignment deadlines)

* Transportation and Parking provides injured and ill students a ride to campus in the morning and a return trip to their residence in the afternoon when a request for this service is made by an appropriate JHU staff member. No means for providing transportation around campus currently exists.

Coordination/Communication

- Dan Ferrara and Jean Free in the Dean of Students’ Office will be Cc’d on all correspondence.
- Bill Catterton in Transportation and Parking will be contacted to arrange transportation.

Proactive Advocacy vs Retroactive Advocacy

- In the majority of cases, SDS will only advocate for flexibility (e.g. with attendance, deadlines, etc.) if it is required in the present and in the future.
- Missed Exams and Assignment Deadlines: If an injury or illness requiring medical attention occurs prior to an exam and impedes a student’s ability to attend the exam session, SDS will advocate for some concession (e.g. retake, waiver of exam) on the part of the professor. The same is true for students who are unable to submit assignments prior to posted deadlines. Documentation of medical attention (e.g. from a hospital) will be required for this advocacy to take place. There are no exceptions to this policy.

Duration of assistance

- Support from SDS will be provided as long as an injury or illness is having a functional impact on the student’s academic life.

Updated 9/30/2014, B. Mosser