

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Fairleigh Dickinson University Regional Center for Learning Disabilities

What kind of results can I expect as a student in the Regional Center?

Overall, students in the Regional Center have been very successful in their academic studies. Half of our students earn a 3.0 GPA or higher. Many go on to pursue graduate and professional degrees. The Regional Center can provide the support and services you need to achieve your goals: your success will be limited only by your commitment to your dreams!

Is there a fee to participate in the Regional Center?

There are no extra fees required to participate in the Regional Center. FDU is the only university in New Jersey — and one of the few nationwide — offering comprehensive LD support services at no additional charge.

What kind of academic support and personal counseling will I receive?

We recognize the challenges you'll face during your first year of college. The Regional Center will help you develop your independence while giving you key resources to succeed academically.

As a freshman, you will have up to four academic support sessions each week with Regional Center learning specialists — usually one for every course you take. These scheduled sessions are “content specific,” teaching you learning strategies and tips targeted to a particular class. They include individual and small group meetings. You'll also work on college-level reading, writing, and study strategies, and receive help with any accommodations you might need.

During one-to-one meetings with your Regional Center counselor, you will review your class assignments and academic schedule, and explore opportunities to engage in student clubs and organizations. It's also a perfect time to discuss any issues you may be experiencing — from time management to transition to college and self-advocacy.

As a sophomore, you'll receive three weekly supports. During junior and senior year, you'll receive one or two weekly supports.

In addition, our staff is always available to you throughout your FDU career to review papers and provide guidance with accommodations and other issues that may arise. While our goal is for you to become an independent learner and self-advocate, we are here to provide the support you need.

The Center is always a welcoming and comfortable gathering place to study, write papers and relax.

Who will advise me about my courses and requirements?

You'll choose courses with the help of your academic advisor in your major, who will make sure all graduation requirements are met. Regional Center staff also can serve as consultants on this process. Our students benefit from priority registration, which means you'll get “first dibs” on most classes.

Will I take any special classes in my freshman year?

As a freshman, you'll attend typical FDU classes with other students. To help ensure your success, you'll also participate in two for-credit classes that count as electives toward your graduation requirements:

- **Metacognitive Strategies** is a two-semester course totaling four credits that helps you better understand your learning disability and develop strategies to become a more effective learner.
- **Basic Technology** is a one-credit course taken during your first semester that introduces you to the wealth of assistive technology resources offered at FDU — including audio textbooks, text-to-speech software and digital pens.

What kind of testing accommodations are available?

Accommodations are based upon your diagnostic testing, educational recommendations, history of accommodations, and specific course requirements. Extended time for testing, use of a computer and/or calculator for tests and exams, and spell check are the most commonly used accommodations.

Who can I call about other questions I have about the Regional Center?

We welcome the opportunity to answer other questions or concerns you may have. Contact us at your campus of interest below:

Florham Campus (Madison, NJ)

Mary Hebert, Ph.D. • Phone: 973-443-8981

Metropolitan Campus (Teaneck, NJ)

Barbara Byrnes, M.A. • Phone: 201-692-2716



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