

# Community Discussion Series

*Better Together: Cross-Campus Collaboration to Support Students with Disabilities*

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# Presenters



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# Session Overview

- Discuss the importance of leveraging cross-campus collaborations to support students with disabilities throughout the education abroad process.
- Explore several case scenarios involving considerations related to ADHD, Mobility, and Mental Health abroad.
- Share resources -- such as the Diversity Abroad Advisor Manual: Access for Disabilities Abroad -- for education abroad staff and faculty committed to equitable support in global programming for students with disabilities.



# Diversity Abroad AIDE Roadmap

## **Campus Collaboration - Guideline 3**

It is essential to have institutional support to implement successful diversity and inclusion initiatives in study abroad. This section seeks to identify ways in which diversity issues, and working with underserved and diverse students, are supported by administrators, faculty, and staff across campus.



# Forum on Education Abroad Standards of Good Practice

## **7. Organizational and Program Resources:**

- Facilities and infrastructure are suited to realizing the goals of the program, providing a safe environment that is conducive to learning, and accommodating students of varying needs and abilities.

<https://forumea.org/resources/standards-of-good-practice/standard-7/>

# Diversity Abroad Advisor Manual: Access for Disabilities Abroad

- Online guide developed in 2016-2017 for Diversity Abroad members
- Handbook for advising students with disabilities to study abroad
- Includes:
  - Background and history on students with disabilities in study abroad
  - Review of study abroad barriers
  - Understanding institutional policies, roles, and context
  - Guidance on Program research, selection
  - Conducting Outreach and inclusive messaging
  - Application support
  - Pre-departure and on-program support
  - Additional resource list



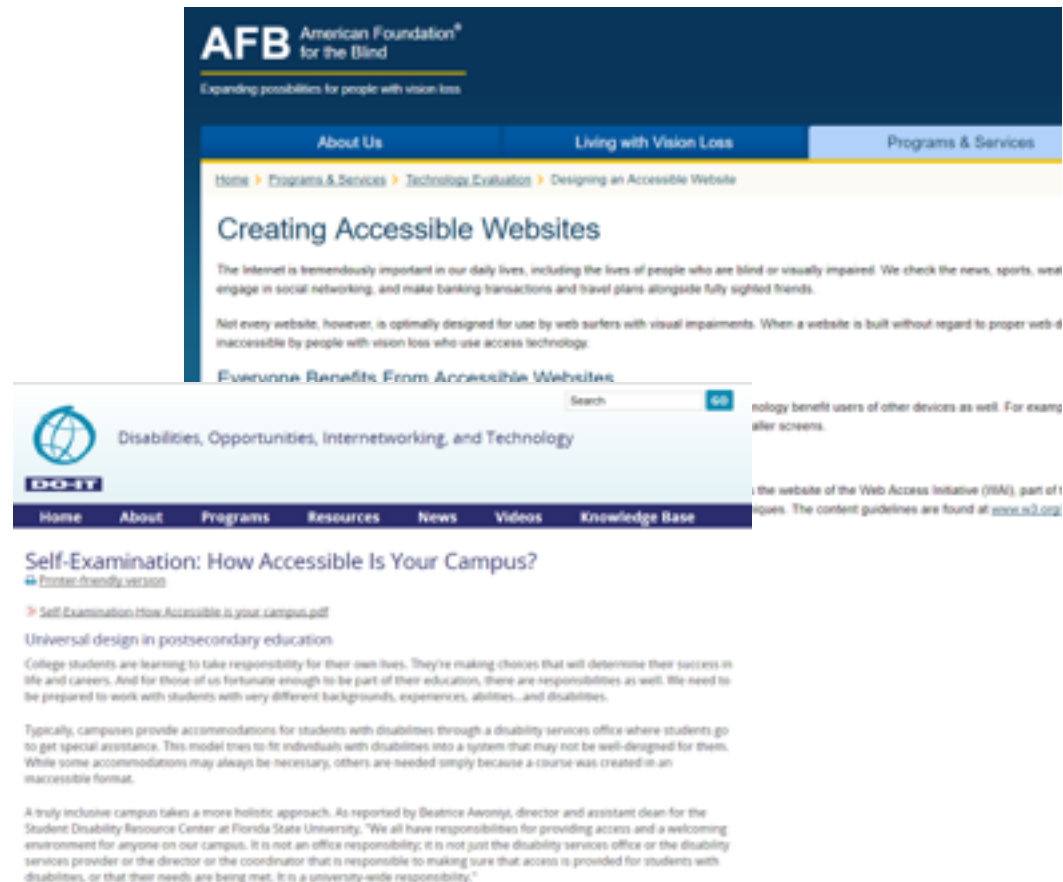


# Diversity Abroad Advisor Manual: Access for Disabilities Abroad

- History, policy language, essential terms
  - Informational background, helpful for anyone new to advising students with disabilities
  - National Clearinghouse on Disability and Exchange (NCDE)
  - Essential Terms
- Resource List
  - Funding
  - Health & Safety
  - Accommodation Guidance

# Diversity Abroad Advisor Manual: Access for Disabilities Abroad

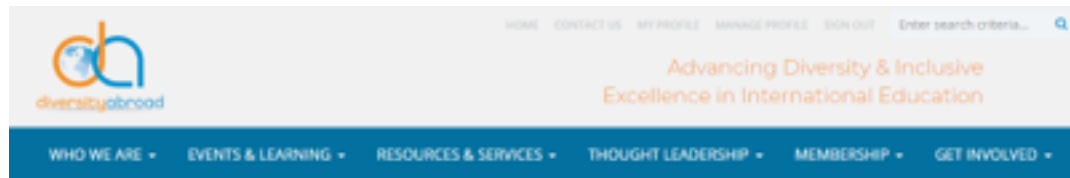
- Outreach Best-Practice Examples
  - Universal Design
  - Campus accessibility assessment
  - Inclusive messaging and communication
  - Tipsheet on essential program requirements





# Diversity Abroad Advisor Manual: Access for Disabilities Abroad

- How-to Access the guide
  - [www.diversitynetwork.org](http://www.diversitynetwork.org)
  - Resources & Services tab
    - Diversity & Inclusion Advising Manuals
      - Diversity Abroad Advisor Manual: Access for Disabilities Abroad



## Education Abroad Advisor Manual: Access for Disabilities Abroad



This guide is designed to provide concrete advice for study abroad professionals who are working with college and university students with disabilities. The guide has been divided into sections in order to contextualize the topic and expose what is already known. We begin with a review of the research and a history of students with disabilities in study abroad. The remaining sections provide detailed practical advice for supporting students during the research, application, preparation, time abroad, and re-entry phases of the study abroad process.

We use a stage-based approach in order to broaden the base of support for students with disabilities beyond the recruitment phase, providing background information, advice, and resources in this guide. We hope this will help international educators and others to effectively support students with disabilities from their initial interest in study abroad through their successful return.

To navigate through the manual, click on the hyperlinked Table of Contents (TOC) to go to a specific section. If you'd like to search for a specific term in the manual, hit the "CTRL" + "F" keys and enter your search term in the search field that appears and hit "Enter". Links in the body of the document must be opened in a new tab.

# Students with Disabilities

What is a disability?

- The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 define disability as a mental or physical impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities. (<https://adata.org/faq/what-definition-disability-under-ada>)
- The International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) defines disability as an umbrella term for impairments, activity limitations and participation restrictions. (<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs352/en/>)

Aspects of Study Abroad Programs to consider:

- mobility/transportation
- housing
- academic learning environment
- meals/diet
- health concerns
- tours/field trips
- pace of trip/program



# Case Study: ADHD

*Types of ADHD: Inattentive, Hyperactive, and Combined*

Common features of ADHD:

- Deficits in executive functioning
- Difficulty managing time or sticking to a schedule
- Problems with organizing information (slower processing speed)
- Difficulty with problem solving
- Impulsive behavior or difficulty staying focused; procrastination
- Lack of self-motivation

Common accommodations for students with ADHD:

- Extra test time
- Note-taking assistance
  - Peer note-taker, allow to record lectures, provide copies of PowerPoint slides/lecture notes
- Reduced distraction environment for testing

## Case Study: ADHD

- Student at division II private school in a Reciprocal Educational Exchange Program (REEP) without ADHD medication
- REEP = full semester to full academic year of study abroad
- Medication was not available abroad
- Student was registered with Disability Services (DS) office at home but not abroad
- Student contacted Study Abroad advisor at home institution.
- Advisor collaborated with academic advisor at host institution
- Encouraged student to follow up with academic advisor at host institution
- The advisor communicated student's concerns with home institution DS office.
- Student worked with international insurance to find doctor who spoke English and could prescribe an alternate ADHD medication

# Case Study: Mobility

How campus and external partnerships supported a student using a wheelchair on a faculty-led program in Latin America

- **On Campus:** Connected with Services for Students with Disabilities Office
  - Identified services student received on campus and mirrored them abroad
  - Ensured accessible transportation was available to class and all program activities
- **Foreign University Partner:** Worked with International Office to identify accessible housing



# Case Study: Mobility



- **Mobility International:** Utilized Mobility Accommodations Information Form
  - Questionnaire to understand student's needs. Sample questions:
    - In your own words, please describe your disability
    - How often do you walk with mobility aids?
    - How often do you use a shower chair or grab bars?
    - How often do you use a Personal Assistant?
- **Insurance Provider:** Received referrals for local medical services, including in-home care providers

# Case Study: Mobility

- **Challenges and Lessons Learned:**
  - Limitations of accessibility in the location, including excursions
  - Establishing clear expectations
    - Personal assistant/in-home care
    - Free time outside of program activities



# Student Mental Health

- Accommodations requested?
  - Health clearance process
  - Accommodations requested through the Office for Services for Students with Disabilities
- Coordination with counseling office on campus
- Counseling and support abroad
  - Norms and attitudes of host country/culture?
  - Prevalence of counseling in host country/culture?
  - Access to local clinicians





# Student Mental Health

- **Pre-departure preparation**
  - Collaborate with insurance company
  - Student contacts insurance company directly to discuss counseling needs
  - Medications? Legality of medication in host country/culture?





# AUDIENCE POLL



# Student Mental Health

- **Workshops and presentations**

- **Students**

- “Crossing Cultures” presentation: semester, academic year and long summer programs
    - Developed in coordination with Counseling and Psychological Services Office

- **Faculty and staff leaders**

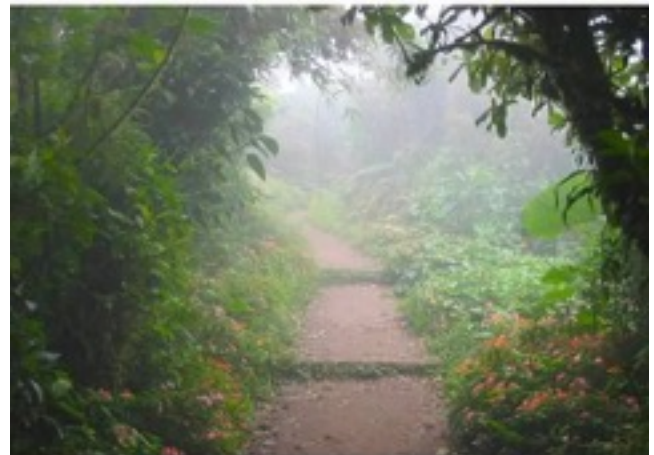
- “Health, Safety and Student Conduct Abroad”
      - Presentation from clinician on campus
      - Hand-out shared with all leaders
    - “Supporting the Whole Student”
      - Presentation from Office for Services for Students with Disabilities



# Student Mental Health

- **Case Study**

- Student reached out Education Abroad Coordinator
- Student shared that he would like to have access to counseling while abroad on four month faculty-led semester program
- Student contacted insurance company directly to discuss options available in host city
- Student also discussed with “home” counselor



# Questions & Discussion

*(Consider these in the context of your work)*

- 1) What resources/relationships AT your institution could be leveraged to support students with disabilities?
- 2) What resources/relationships OUTSIDE of your institution could be leveraged to support students with disabilities?
- 3) What success in supporting students with disabilities pursue global programming can you share? What were key components to this success?

# Resources

- Disability Accommodations Questionnaire - <http://www.miusa.org/resource/tipsheet/assessmentforms>
- Expectations for Personal Assistants - <http://www.miusa.org/resource/tipsheet/expectationspas>
- Tipsheets for Students with Physical Disabilities - [http://www.miusa.org/resources?f%5B0%5D=field\\_resource\\_disability%3A35&f%5B1%5D=field\\_resource\\_type%3A60](http://www.miusa.org/resources?f%5B0%5D=field_resource_disability%3A35&f%5B1%5D=field_resource_type%3A60)
- Education Abroad Advisor Manual: Access for Disabilities Abroad - <http://www.diversitynetwork.org/?page=ManualDisabilities>
- NAFSA Advising Guide - <https://shop.nafsa.org/detail.aspx?id=120E>
- US Department of State Traveling with Disabilities guideline - <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/before-you-go/travelers-with-special-considerations/traveling-with-disabilities.html>
- US Department of State's [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#)
- Check out these websites and resources:
  - Northwestern: <http://www.northwestern.edu/studyabroad/guide/identity-and-diversity/index.html>
  - University of Minnesota: <https://umabroad.umn.edu/students/identity/>



# Contact Us

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# What's Next...

## Full Recording of Community Discussion

- Added to D&I Resource Center for Members

## PowerPoint Presentation & Resource Sheet

- Sent to All Participants

## 6th Annual Diversity Abroad Conference

April 7-10, 2018 in Miami, Florida