

DRS Academic Resource Fund: Procedure for Placing Requests

Source of Funds

Disability Resources for Students is excited to offer a financial resource for disabled students who need help paying for technology, evaluations, and more through a special UofM Foundation Account. The account is made up of donations from interested UofM alumni and community members who support our mission for providing access and support. Funds have also been made available through grants like the University of Memphis Campus Community Grant.

Intended Use

A student can make a request through DRS to pay for specific tools for resources which DRS and the UofM would not otherwise provide. This could include adaptive technologies, payment for evaluations through on-campus entities, or other academic resources that are approved by the DRS Academic Resource Fund Committee.

Phillip Minyard Accessible Technology Stipend

For purchase of software and hardware, DRS will work with the student to determine which is the best option: for DRS to purchase at a likely lower rate, or if DRS will reimburse the student for a pre-determined cost.

Dona Sparger Academic Resource Stipend

For purchase of academic resources, DRS will work with the student to determine which is the best option: for DRS to purchase specific resources, or if DRS will reimburse the student for a pre-determined cost.

Susan Te Paske Psychoeducational Evaluation Stipend

For psychological-educational evaluations, DRS will cover costs for evals through the Counseling Center or Psychological Services Center, both located on the main campus of the University.

Procedure

To make a request, students should complete the "DRS Academic Resource Fund Request" and return it to DRS. The committee will review the request and funds available in our Foundation Account to determine if we can provide the full cost or partial cost. The committee will also decide whether DRS will provide the student with a direct deposit of the funds or if DRS will pay directly.

Denials

The committee has the right to deny requests at their discretion. Some reasons why a request might be denied are:

- The request is not linked to a disability
- The request does not support academic progress or access
- The funds in the account are depleted

The committee reviews requests on Tuesday mornings. You will receive notice of denial email within 1 week of the decision. If it has been more than one week and you still have not received notice, please reach out to drs@memphis.edu.

Approvals

If you are approved for a full or partial award, you will be notified by email of the approval, the amount, and payment/disbursement method.