



# Coronavirus Community Updates

## Frequently Asked Questions

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## Resources and updates

Remote teaching resources from CITL
Remote learning resources from UMaine Online
Tools for remote work, teaching and learning from UMS Information Technology
U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Disease information
Maine Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Response
Maine Emergency Management Agency
Latest announcements from Maine Governor's Office
University of Maine System Information and updates regarding Coronavirus
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### CARES Act Required Website Posting Information (UMM)

Published: May 29, 2020

### CARES Act Required Website Posting Information (UMaine)

Published: May 28, 2020

### UMS work and pay guidance, May 7

Published: May 08, 2020

### Advisory groups leading fall planning, April 27

Published: April 28, 2020

### CARES Act Distribution to Students Expected Week of May 4

Published: April 24, 2020

## Accessibility accommodations and Student Accessibility Services

*Note: These UMaine/UMM FAQs are subject to change at any time. Please check this site regularly for the latest information as it becomes available. The most recent additions and changes are at the top of this page. Last modified May 11, 2020.*

### What if I have difficulty with notetaking in an online course?

First, consider how your instructors have adapted their courses for virtual instruction. If the instructor provides recorded lectures or videos you can watch at your own pace, pause to take notes, and watch or review multiple times if needed. If approved to use Sonocent as a notetaking accommodation you might wish to download the Sonocent app on your mobile phone and transfer the recording to your device at a later time via a USB cable. For assistance, we recommend [this tutorial](#). If you have other questions or need assistance with notetaking accommodations for online courses contact [um.sas@maine.edu](mailto:um.sas@maine.edu).

### Is the Student Accessibility Services (SAS) Office open for appointments?

While the SAS office remains open, all student appointments will be conducted by phone or online via Zoom until further notice. You can schedule an appointment by calling 207.581.2319.

### Will I continue to receive my approved accommodations for online courses?

Yes. Students approved for accommodations through SAS will continue to receive accommodations, but the accommodations they need may change. Accommodations like extra time on tests will be available for any classes provided through Blackboard or another learning management system. However, some accommodations may no longer be applicable, such as a low distraction testing environment on campus. Contact SAS if you have questions related to a specific accommodation.

### Can I obtain accommodations if I haven't done so already or change my accommodations?

Yes. We continue to schedule initial appointments for students interested in discussing their eligibility for accommodations. Prior to scheduling a phone call or Zoom meeting, please review our [accommodations process](#).

If you are not currently connected with Student Accessibility Services, please complete [this form](#) and send it to [um.sas@maine.edu](mailto:um.sas@maine.edu). Someone from our office will reach out to discuss next steps.

If you have already connected with SAS, please contact us at [um.sas@maine.edu](mailto:um.sas@maine.edu) or individually:

- Sara Henry, [shenry@maine.edu](mailto:shenry@maine.edu)
- Amy Sturgeon, [amy.m.sturgeon@maine.edu](mailto:amy.m.sturgeon@maine.edu)
- Julie Cheville, [julie.cheville@maine.edu](mailto:julie.cheville@maine.edu)

### How do I receive extended time for my online exams?

While online instruction is in place at UMaine, SAS will not be proctoring exams in our office. Instructions for faculty on how to extend time on Blackboard is available on [this website](#). Please communicate with your instructors to discuss your exam accommodations in their courses before the time your next test is scheduled. Some instructors may opt for alternative assessments (e.g. essays, untimed exams) that would not require exam accommodations. SAS is available to instructors and students to consult about unique circumstances. Please contact us with testing questions at [um.sas@maine.edu](mailto:um.sas@maine.edu). If you are concerned, please contact instructors prior to your next exam to confirm that extended time has been preset by the instructor within Blackboard or other learning management system. If you need assistance with this, please contact SAS.

### I have questions about my other accommodations?

The shift to online instruction may affect the need for some accommodations, such as flexible attendance. Please contact SAS and your instructors to discuss any additional barriers presented by changes to the course format.

### What do I do in the absence of a human reader for my online exams?

We encourage you to download an e-reader to use on any online exams. If you are not already using an e-reader, please explore one of the following e-reader options:

- [Natural Reader](#)
- [TTS Reader](#)
- [Adobe Reader](#)
- [Voice Dictation for Mac Users](#)
- [Read&Write for Google Chrome](#)

If you are unable to use an e-reader, please contact SAS to discuss other methods of accommodation by calling 207.581.2319 or by emailing [um.sas@maine.edu](mailto:um.sas@maine.edu).

### What do I do if I have used a human scribe as an accommodation on essay or written tests?

If you are not already using dictation software, please explore one of the following options:

- [Dragon for PC](#)
- [Microsoft Dictation Pro](#)
- [Windows Speech Recognition](#)
- [Voice Note II Chrome Extension](#)
- [Set Dictation option on Mac or Siri on an iPad](#)
- [Braina Pro](#)
- [Google Docs Voice Typing](#)

### What if I need a scribe for classes in math, science, or other courses?

Please contact SAS as soon as possible to discuss arrangements for upcoming exams.

### I'm having difficulty with accessibility in my online courses, what do I do?

If you need assistance because your course materials are not accessible, please contact [um.sas@maine.edu](mailto:um.sas@maine.edu) and your faculty member to let us know and we will help. A variety of materials are available to [support faculty](#) and students (see links below) in the transition to online instruction and online learning as well as [creating accessible course materials](#). All requests for captioned videos or lectures or audio descriptions should be made as soon as possible so we can work with vendors to provide captioning.

- [Tips for online students](#) from UMaine Online
- [Succeeding in online courses](#) from USM
- [10 Strategies for online learning during a coronavirus outbreak](#) from the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE)

