Student Accessibility Services (SAS) Peer Coaches

SAS Peer Coaches are current students enrolled at Ontario Tech University and are hired through the <u>University</u> <u>Works program</u>. These students have used or are familiar with SAS services, including accommodated testing, assistive technology and accommodations. Peer coaching sessions are available online or in person and can be scheduled flexibly based on each student's needs.

What Peer Coaches do:

- Academic support (reviewing course syllabus, deadlines, etc.).
- Assist students with booking tests in the <u>Test Centre</u>.
- Campus navigation.
- Connection to resources on campus.

What Peer Coaches do not help with:

- Mental health/crisis support.
- Negotiating assignment extensions.
- Subject-specific tutoring and academic advising.

• Support in increasing involvement in university events/clubs, etc.

- Support with navigation of SAS portal and SAS services.
- Time management support.

• Translation services.

• Updating/changing accommodations.

Frequently asked questions about SAS Peer Coaching:

How often can I meet with my Peer Coach?

• Peer Coaches and students set up a schedule that works for both the student and coach. Students usually meet with or touch base with their Peer Coach once a week.

Are SAS Peer Coaches tutors? Can they help me complete my coursework?

- No, Peer Coaches are not tutors but are here to help students with organizational skills such as syllabus understanding and other supports.
- Academic support is available through the <u>Student Learning Centre</u> (SLC). Your Peer Coach can help register you with SLC.

Can Peer Coaches provide me with mental health support?

• Peer Coaches are not mental health professionals or counsellors but support students in accessing the university's <u>Student Mental Health Services</u>.

Can Peer Coaches assign, update, or help me with my accommodation plan?

- They are not able to assign, update, or help students with specific accommodation-related questions as this is the responsibility of the students' SAS Specialist.
- They can support students in getting in touch with their SAS Specialist if required.

If you have any questions or inquiries about SAS Peer Coaches, please contact <u>studentaccessibility@ontariotechu.ca</u>

