



**Progressive Evaluation of Competency (PEC)
Examination Modifications for
Learners with Disabilities**

Policy:

- The ASC will provide learners who have disabilities reasonable accommodations in the administration of its examinations, where appropriate.
- The ASC will work individually with each learner to accommodate their needs.

Documentation of Disability:

- The ADA defines an individual with a disability as a person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits that person in one or more major life activities, has a record of such impairment, or is regarded as having such impairment. “Major life activities” include functions such as caring for oneself, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, and working. A “qualified” individual with a disability is one who meets the requirements to take the examination and with or without reasonable accommodation, can perform the essential functions of a pathologist.
- Learners requesting accommodation due to a disability must submit their request via a residency or fellowship program representative (program director, associate program director, program coordinator, etc.)
 - If a learner is not comfortable disclosing their disability status to their training program, they may contact the ASC PEC liaison for further guidance in submitting documentation of their disability.
 - Accommodation requests that come directly from a learner, without additional corroboration, will not be approved.
- Learners must specify the type of accommodation that is requested.
- If a learner is given accommodation on an examination given by the ASC, they will be eligible to receive the same accommodation on subsequent ASC examinations within the same academic year. However, accommodations for each examination must be arranged by the learner with the ASC PEC liaison, before the examination window opens.

Timeline:

- Fellow examinations: Accommodation must be requested at least two weeks prior to an examination window opening.
- Resident examinations: Accommodation must be requested at least two weeks prior to the date the learner wishes to complete the examination.
- If a learner is taking ASC examinations in multiple years (for example, resident examinations as a PGY4 and fellow examinations as a PGY5), a request for accommodation must be submitted each academic year, prior to the first examination for which accommodation is required.

Approved by the ASC Executive Board, May 2025