The Coalition for Disability Access in Health Science and Medical Education was co-founded by UCSF Medical Student Disability Services Director Dr. Lisa Meeks, University of Chicago Student Disability Services Director Dr. Gregory Moorehead, and Tim Montgomery, current director of SDS at UCSF and former Assistant Director of Accessible NU at Northwestern Universities Health Science and Professional Chicago Campus. The coalition is a collaboration among peer institutions that aims to improve the student experience with disability accommodations in graduate health science and medical education programs.

The impetus for the coalition sprang from conversations with colleagues, which revealed divergent student experiences from one university to the next. In the professional health sciences, students often transition to different institutions as they progress through study, training, and residency. The experience is taxing for all medical students and especially for those who also are navigating accessibility options and processes. A desire both to alleviate this burden and to facilitate greater numbers of students with disabilities in medical school drove the development of this coalition as a vehicle to establish best practices.

A group that had already been sharing ideas with colleagues from across the country organically took shape. They formed the Coalition for Disability Access in Health Science and Medical Education. To join the conversation, email lisa.meeks@ucsf.edu.

The mission of the coalition is to:

- Develop best practices for facilitating access within graduate, professional, health science programs.
  - Advance these practices through innovative ideas and research to ensure equal access to programs.
  - Disseminate these practices within the fields of disability services and graduate, professional, health sciences.

For information about the Coalition visit the Coalition Website.

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UCSF Main Site

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