

Special Dietary Needs

Grove City College seeks to support students with unique and specific dietary needs through a variety of options in the dining halls and/or through dietary accommodations for students with disabilities.

Questions regarding this information can be directed to –

Parkhurst Dining: Chef Justin McArdle at McArdleJT@GCC.EDU for questions regarding current food options, labeling, or preparation information.

Disability Services Office: Disability Services staff at DisabilityServices@gcc.edu for questions regarding the accommodation process or currently approved accommodations. Students can complete the application to request dietary accommodations [here](#).

Inspired Eats

In both Hicks and MAP dining halls, students will find Inspired Eats stations. These stations are available to all students, and food at these stations is made without the major 9 allergens, which include the following:

- Dairy 
- Eggs 
- Fish 
- Peanuts 
- Sesame 
- Shellfish 
- Soy 
- Tree Nuts 
- Wheat (Including Gluten) 

While the food for these stations is prepared without these ingredients, some of it is prepared in a shared kitchen, and there is a chance of cross contamination. The Inspired Eats station at Hicks, however, has been moved to a location that allows for most of the preparation to be done at the station itself to minimize cross contamination. Additionally, there is also a station in Hicks that includes gluten-friendly bread and snacks.

Labeling

Parkhurst Dining also has a robust labeling system, and many common allergens will have a symbol on the label indicating their presence (see list above). Additionally, food that is gluten-friendly will have a label of **GF**, so students with a gluten intolerance or allergy could look for food items with that label. Additionally, near the cash register in each dining hall, a sign will be posted listing the staff member currently on duty who is able to best answer questions relating to special dietary concerns, such as food allergies. Further details about ingredients and dietary information are also [available on Nutrislice](#).



Dietary Accommodations

Conditions which may be the basis for dietary accommodations include, but are not limited to, severe food allergies, celiac disease, irritable bowel syndrome, or gastroparesis. The Disability Services Office will work with the College's food services provider to determine appropriate and reasonable accommodations.

Students who wish to request dietary accommodations should complete the [application to request accommodations](#). Documentation of the need for dietary accommodations is a vital component of evaluating a request and can be submitted with the application or e-mailed to DisabilityServices@gcc.edu. Documentation guidelines are available on the [GCC website](#).

A meeting with the student and the special diet team, which may include Disability Services staff and/or Parkhurst Dining staff, will be held to discuss the best path forward. Accommodations are approved based on what is necessary for the student to have equal access due to a disability and are not approved solely based upon preference or convenience.

Special Diet Program

For students with severe allergies and/or complex needs that cannot be met by navigating the dining halls by using existing options, it may be possible to be approved for the special diet program as a dietary accommodation.

Students on the special diet program receive a menu from the chef at the start of each week from which the student will select their meals for each day taking into consideration their own allergies or other unique dietary concerns. The special diet meals are made with as much separation from other food preparations as possible, and the student has the option of eating the meal in the dining hall or taking it to go.

Housing Accommodation

For students whose needs cannot be accommodated through assistance navigating the dining hall and/or the special diet program, a housing accommodation could be considered as a possible accommodation due to dietary needs. Generally, the student must first meet with the special diet team and/or have participated in the special diet program for a **reasonable** period of time before a housing accommodation would be considered as an alternative. Additionally, availability of a housing accommodation may be impacted by the [priority deadlines](#) posted on the GCC website.