Calculator Descriptions

In some courses and for some tests, a calculator may be allowed. Disability Services Office proctors will only allow a calculator that falls in the category the instructor indicates (or in a lower category). If a student’s calculator has more features than what is allowed by the instructor, then the student will have to take their test without a calculator. A cell phone or computer app is not allowed in place of a hand-held calculator, unless the cell phone or computer is also allowed to other students in the classroom.

Students with an accommodation to use a calculator will be permitted to use a basic 4-function calculator during their test (unless the rest of the class is permitted to use a higher-level calculator, in which case the student with an accommodation would also be permitted to use the higher-level calculator).

The following terms can be used to describe the various types of calculators that may be allowed during a test in the Test Center:

**Basic 4-function calculator:** performs the basic functions of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division

**Scientific calculator:** includes log, trig and exponential functions; scientific notation
Graphing calculator: programmable; capable of plotting graphs and solving simultaneous equations.