At times, a student which is registered with the Office of Student Accessibility Services may qualify to be considered for class absences. This accommodations is frequently offered for a student who has a documented chronic health problem which occasionally causes them to be absent from class. Faculty/department set this own attendance policy; the accommodation is simply a request for some flexibility. The amount of flexibility will depend on the nature of the class and whether class participation is a factor in the final grade. Students who are eligible for this accommodation are responsible for completing all coursework. This accommodation is not a blank check which allows students to miss large number of classes for any course. A student with excessive absences in a class should consult with the instructor about dropping the course with a passing grade or receiving an incomplete grade where appropriate.

The Office of Civil Rights looks at Attendance in the following 6 ways:

1. Do student contributions constitute a significant component of the learning process?
2. Does the fundamental nature of the course rely upon student participation as an essential method for learning?
3. To what degree does a student’s failure to attend constitute a significant loss to the educational experience or other students in the class?
4. What does the course description and syllabus say?
5. What is the method by which the final course grades is calculated
6. What are classroom practice and policies regarding attendance?

Source: http://ds.oregonstate.edu/faculty/guidelines.php#flexibilityknow