



Documenting Medical and Physical Disabilities

Medical and Physical disabilities documentation must be provided by a physician, such as a neurologist, medical specialist, etc., with expertise and experience in treating the disability for which the accommodation is being requested.

Appropriate documentation is essential in determining and processing any accommodation request by individuals whose disability is based on those defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Documentation must include the name, title, and professional credentials of the evaluator, including any licensing or certification, (i.e. *licensed* psychologist) as well as area of specialization. All of this information must be clearly stated in the documentation submitted for review.

Documentation for requesting any accommodation must clearly state:

- The medical diagnosis of the physical or systematic disability.
- A summary of assessment procedures.
- A description of present symptoms that meet the criteria for diagnosis.
- Medical information relating to the student's needs, the impact of medication on the student's ability to meet the demands of the post-secondary environment.
- A statement of the functional impact or limitations of the disability on learning or other major life activity and the degree to which it impacts the individual in an academic environment and the context for the accommodation that is being requested.
- All documentation must be typewritten and on letterhead.

Further assessment by an appropriate professional may be required if multiple disabilities are indicated. Documentation for one disability may not support the requested accommodation for another disability.(i.e., if there is a learning disability as well as a physical one).