



SENSORY DISABILITIES DOCUMENTATION GUIDELINES

Students requesting accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 must provide documentation of a diagnosed sensory impairment that substantially limits a major life activity. Documentation and recommendations must be appropriate to the postsecondary setting. The report must describe the current impact of the disability on the student's academic performance.

Accommodations are individually determined each semester. Once Services for Students with Disabilities (SAS) receives documentation, it is the student's responsibility to make an appointment with a staff member at SAS to discuss eligibility and receive academic accommodations that semester.

Confidentiality Statement

Student Access Services (SAS) will not release any information at any point in the disability accommodation process regarding an individual's diagnosis or medical information without his or her informed written consent or under compulsion of legal process. Information will be released only on a "need to know" basis, except where otherwise required by law. All documentation will be stored in a secure place.

Documentation Guidelines: Visual impairments

Students requesting accommodations on the basis of low-vision or blindness must provide documentation consisting of:

- An ocular assessment or evaluation from an ophthalmologist, or a low-vision evaluation of residual visual function, where appropriate, which should be dated within 6 months, particularly if the condition is subject to change
- A description of current symptoms, fluctuating conditions/symptoms, and prognosis
- An assessment of functionally limiting manifestations of the vision disability
- A history of accommodations received in the past
- Recommendations for reasonable accommodations that address the student's functional impairments, with particular regard to assistive technology and alternate formats for print materials and a rationale in support of each recommendation

Documentation Guidelines: Hearing impairments

Students who are deaf or hard-of-hearing must provide documentation consisting of:

- An audiological evaluation and/or audiogram which should be dated within 6 months, particularly if the condition is subject to change
- Pertinent history, including date and age of onset of hearing loss, current level of severity, and statement of whether the hearing loss is stable or progressive
- A clinical summary of the functional implications of the diagnostic data
- A history of accommodations received in the past
- Recommendations for reasonable accommodations that address the student's functional impairments, with particular regard to communication devices and methods, such as sign-language interpreting services, assisted listening devices, C-Print, or CART services and a rationale in support of each recommendation

***** Note that submission of documentation is not the same as the request for services. You still must complete the Application for Accommodations and Services. SAS cannot support any accommodation requests until the documentation is complete.**

