Physical Disability Documentation Guidelines for Service Eligibility & Determination

In order to establish eligibility for support services and/or reasonable accommodations, students must provide comprehensive disability documentation from a medical professional licensed or certified to diagnose and treat their disability (ies). It should provide information on the present functional impact of the student’s disability (ies).

Physical disabilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Mobility impairment
- Impaired manual dexterity and/or upper limb strength, stamina, or function
- Chronic medical condition
- Visual impairment
- Hearing impairment

Disability Documentation should include:

- Diagnosis, including a clear statement of the existence of a medically determinable physical disability.
- Description of the disability’s current functional impact on activities relevant to the university experience.
- Written report including results of relevant and current assessments related to age or date of onset, progression, severity and scope of functional limitation, situational factors, prognosis, etc.
  - For Vision impairment, include test results of visual acuity, field of vision, age at onset, progression, and prognosis.
  - For Hearing impairment, include test results of auditory function or impairment, age at onset, progression, and prognosis.
- Statement regarding the current or planned use of medication, assistive devices, or other rehabilitative measures that may or may not mitigate the disability, symptoms, or functional limitations associated with the disability.

Documentation must be submitted on official letterhead, signed by the health care professional and include the name, address, phone number, and credentials of the author. These standards of acceptable documentation are designed to provide the staff of Services for Students with Disabilities with meaningful insights into the disability-related needs of the students who seek our assistance. We reserve the right to share the information with the University Health Services for consultation and advice.

B. Jean Fairbairn, Director