



Documentation Guidelines for Students with Temporary Disabilities

Professional qualifications of the evaluator:

Students requesting educational accommodations and services on the basis of a temporary disability must have a qualified professional provide documentation. If the temporary disability is physical health related, the documentation must be completed by a practicing medical doctor (M.D.), doctor of osteopathy (D.O.), licensed chiropractor, or nurse practitioner (A.P.R.N.). If the nature of the temporary disability is mental health, the documentation must be completed by licensed psychologist, psychiatrist, neurologist, clinical social worker, or mental health counselor. The diagnostician must be an impartial individual who is not a family member of the student.

Diagnostic and treatment information:

- The report must describe the type and severity of the individual's symptoms at the time of first diagnosis and state the date of onset. It should describe the subsequent progress and treatment of the condition.
- The report must contain a description and severity of the individual's current symptoms.
- The report must detail any currently prescribed or recommended treatment, care, or assistive devices. Examples include medical treatment, physical therapy or other therapies, dietary requirements, mobility devices or other assistive devices, and full- or part-time attendant care.
- The specific timeframe for which the disability is anticipated to have a substantial impact on the student's academic functioning.

Current impact of the disability:

- The report should describe the manner and level of severity with which the disability currently impacts general functioning.
- The report should describe the manner and level of severity with which the disability currently impacts academic functioning, e.g., reading, memorizing, writing, notetaking, test-taking.
- The report should indicate any types of activity that might be a typical part of a college program that are specifically contraindicated by the student's disability.

Recommendations for the student's academic program:

The report should contain the following:

- Recommendations for specific reasonable accommodations that are needed to address the current and substantial impact of the disability on the student's academic functioning.
- Suggestions about how the specific effects of the temporary disability may be accommodated.

Please send documentation forms to:

Student Accessibility Services
Worcester State University
486 Chandler Street
Worcester, MA 01602-2597
Phone: 508.929.8733 Fax: 508.929.8214
Email: sas@worchester.edu