



Documentation Guidelines for Students with Psychiatric Disabilities

Professional qualifications of the evaluator:

Students requesting educational accommodations and services on the basis of a psychiatric disability must provide current documentation from a licensed psychologist, psychiatrist, clinical social worker, neurologist, school psychologist, mental health counselor or psychiatric nurse practitioner. The evaluator must be an impartial individual who is not a family member of the student.

Diagnosis or diagnoses must include:

A specific, current psychiatric diagnosis or diagnoses on the current edition of the DSM or ICD which indicates the nature, frequency and severity of the symptoms upon which the diagnosis was based. A diagnosis without an explicit listing of current symptoms is insufficient. Primary and Secondary Axis I and Axis II diagnosis are required.

Current Impact of the disability:

A clinical summary must describe the substantial limitations to major life activities that are/is posed by the psychiatric disability as well as describing the extent to which these limitations would/will impact the academic context for which the accommodations are being requested.

Medications:

Documentation must include a complete listing of psychotropic medications, dosages and schedules which may influence the types of accommodations requested.

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 psychiatric 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
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