



Psychological/Psychiatric Disability Documentation Guidelines

Diagnosis of a psychiatric or psychological disorder should be made by a psychiatrist, licensed clinical psychologist, licensed counselor, or a combination of such professionals. Because the provision of reasonable accommodations is based upon the current impact of the disability on the student's academic functioning, in most cases Disability Support Services will request this evaluation to have been performed within the past calendar year. All documentation will be reviewed on an individual basis.

Documentation of a psychiatric or psychological disorder should include:

1. A specific diagnosis, the date of diagnosis, and the specification of the diagnostic criteria on which the diagnosis is based (for example, DSM-V).
2. Complete developmental, educational, medical, and family histories as they relate to the psychological disorder.
3. A list of the measures (informal and formal) that were used to diagnose and assess the disorder.
4. Initial date of contact with the student, approximate number of sessions and date of last session.
5. A general statement of medications, therapeutic methods and/or treatment plan employed in the management of the psychological disorder.
6. Specific statements concerning how the disability substantially limits major life activities and description of the activities (sleeping, caring for oneself, concentrating, etc.) as described under the Americans with Disabilities Act.
7. Recommendations regarding reasonable academic accommodations to equalize this student's educational or residential opportunities at the post-secondary level.