

## Office of Student Accessibility Services

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### Documentation Guidelines

The Office of Student Accessibility Services (OSAS) provides academic, programmatic, and physical accessibility and services to students with disabilities. OSAS frequently assists students with many different medical conditions and diagnosed disabilities including attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, learning disabilities, seizure disorder, traumatic brain injury, depression, anxiety, arthritis, gastrointestinal conditions, deafness, hearing loss, and blindness. It is important to note that this is not an exhaustive list; thus, we welcome all students with disabilities to seek out our services.

Eligibility for accommodations and services are established through information obtained from the student's self-report and submitted documentation. The documentation must be *on letterhead, typed, dated, and signed*. The information must be from a qualified/licensed professional (e.g., physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, mental health counselor, etc.), who is unrelated to the student, and whose credentials permit the evaluation of the disability. The following guidelines are provided to assist students in obtaining documentation to establish the need for reasonable accommodations:

1. A clear statement of the medical and/or psychiatric diagnosis (i.e., ICD-10, DSM-5) with a description of the student's current symptoms (if applicable, specify if the diagnosis is in partial or full remission);
2. Date of the initial diagnosis and/or date of the most recent visit with the student for this diagnosis;
3. Information regarding the functional impact or limitations of the condition or disability on the student's learning and other major life activities;
4. The impact of medication on the student's ability to meet the demands of the postsecondary environment, if relevant;
5. The expected duration, stability, and/or progression of the disability.
6. For students who experience flare ups or intermittent symptoms, describe the current severity, duration, and frequency;
7. For students with a documented learning disability: documentation ideally includes a comprehensive evaluation of intelligence and academic achievement, with standardized scaled scores and composite scores to support the diagnosis or eligibility classification. This is commonly included in a psychoeducational evaluation conducted by a school psychologist or a licensed psychologist;
8. Suggest recommendations for accommodations and/or services that the student may require.
9. For **Housing requests** the following information is also required:
  - a) State the specific accommodations that are needed in housing;
  - b) Describe how the student's medical/psychiatric condition necessitates the need for the requested housing accommodation, as it relates to the student's disability;
  - c) Demonstrate how the specific room design and/or living environment will help to mitigate the student's symptoms;
  - d) State whether, based on disability reasons, the specific housing request is a preference or a required accommodation.

NOTE: The Office of Student Accessibility Services has a comprehensive form that you may complete for Housing requests in lieu of writing a letter.

**Further assessment or additional documentation may be necessary**, if the documentation does not support the requested accommodations. Please contact OSAS at 440-775-5589 or [OSAS@oberlin.edu](mailto:OSAS@oberlin.edu) if you have any questions. All documentation is considered confidential and should be sent to:

The Office of Student Accessibility Services  
50 North Professor Street  
Peters Hall, Room 118  
Oberlin, OH 44074-1091

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