



## **Student Accessibility Resources Guidelines for Documentation of Sensory and Hearing Impairments and Deafness**

Dear Sir or Madam,

The purpose of this letter is to identify specific documentation needed in order to provide services from the Student Accessibility Resources office under the Americans with Disabilities Act as amended (ADAAA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The diagnosis of a disability alone does not automatically qualify a student for accommodations under these laws. To establish a need for a reasonable accommodation, documentation must indicate that the disability substantially limits one or more major life activities and support requests for services, accommodations, academic adjustments, and/or auxiliary aids.

Please provide the following information to our office **on letterhead**:

### **Deafness and Hard of Hearing**

Students who are deaf or hard-of-hearing must provide documentation consisting of:

- An audiological evaluation and/or audiogram; **and**
- An interpretation of the functional implications of the diagnostic data.
- All documentation should be current, i.e. within the last three years.

### **Visual Impairments and Blindness**

Students requesting accommodations on the basis of low vision or blindness must provide documentation consisting of:

- An ocular assessment or evaluation from an ophthalmologist, or a low-vision evaluation of residual visual function, where appropriate; **and**
- An assessment of functionally limiting manifestations of the disabling condition.
- All documentation should be current, i.e. within the last three years.



## Speech Impairments

Students requesting accommodations on the basis of a speech/language disability must provide documentation consisting of:

- A clearly written statement of the disability diagnosed by a qualified professional trained in this area (e.g., physician, speech/language pathologist, neurologist, etc.); **and**
- A summary of the various evaluation tools used in determining the specific disability; **and**
- A summary of present symptoms and how these symptoms affect the student's functioning, specifically in relation to the postsecondary environment.
- All documentation should be current, i.e. within the last three years.

Please contact our office with any questions or concerns regarding this request. We thank you for your assistance and cooperation.

Sincerely,

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Gulf Coast State College  
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