

Documenting Your Disability

The Health, Wellness and Disability Services Department has a specific mandate to provide accommodations to students with disabilities. Therefore, when requesting our assistance, students are required to submit documentation confirming that they have either a temporary or a permanent* disability in order to be considered eligible for services.

You are not required to disclose your disability, but your documentation should outline:

- The functional limitations imposed by the disability on daily activities, and, if possible, how those limitations relate to participation in postsecondary studies.
- The typical symptoms you may experience.
- The impact of your disability on your learning, i.e. attention, concentration, learning ability, fatigue, absences, etc..
- Any other special considerations.

Because our department deals with a wide variety of disabilities/conditions, it is important that you provide your counsellor with as much information as possible so that we can understand your needs.

We will provide you with our Functional Limitations Assessment form, which allows your health care practitioner to provide us with the information we need to arrange the accommodations that will help you best manage your program requirements.

A list of eligible health care practitioners includes:

- Audiologist
- Chiropractor
- Neurologist
- Occupational Therapist
- Optometrist
- Ophthalmologist
- Physician (family, specialist, psychiatrist)
- Physiotherapist
- Psychologist
- Psychological Associate
- Rheumatologist

If you already have documentation on hand that does disclose your disability and you prefer to use that, you have the option to do so.

***Permanent disability**

"Permanent disability" is defined as a functional limitation that is caused by a physical or mental impairment that restricts your ability to perform the daily activities necessary to participate in studies at a postsecondary level or in the labour force, and that is expected to remain with you for your expected natural life.