Guidelines for Documentation of Temporary Conditions

Any temporary condition is considered to be in the medical domain and requires the expertise of a physician, including a neurologist, psychiatrist or other medical specialist with experience and expertise in the area for which accommodations are being requested.

**Documentation must include:**

1. A clear statement of the medical diagnosis of the temporary condition.

2. The results of the most recent evaluation regarding the condition. Documentation for eligibility should be current, within the last three months (the age of acceptable documentation is dependent upon the temporary condition, the current status of the student and the student’s request for accommodations).

3. A summary of assessment procedures and evaluation instruments used to make the diagnosis, including evaluation results and standardized scores if applicable.

4. A description of present symptoms that meet the criteria for diagnosis.

5. Medical information relating to the student’s needs to include the impact of medication on the student’s ability to meet the demands of the postsecondary environment.

6. The printed name, signature, title, professional credentials, address, phone number and fax number of each medical specialist involved as well as the date(s) of testing/evaluation, all on official letterhead (The following are not acceptable: physician’s note on a prescription pad, lab results, clinical file notes).

Suggestions of reasonable accommodations that might be appropriate at the postsecondary level are encouraged. These recommendations must be supported by the diagnosis and current symptoms.

In the case of obvious temporary physical conditions (i.e. a broken leg or arm), provisional accommodations may be granted with the agreement that supporting documentation be submitted to our office within a reasonable time (3 to 5 days).

All documentation is confidential and should be submitted to:

Disability Services and Programs  
University of Southern California  
3601 Trousdale Parkway, #301  
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0896  
(213) 740-0776  
(213) 740-8216 Fax  
ability@usc.edu  
http://www.usc.edu/disability

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