

**Guidelines for Documentation of a Physical Disability-Orthopedic and  
Basic Chronic Medical Conditions**

Orthopedic and other medical conditions must currently substantially limit a major life activity, including learning, to support eligibility under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Documentation must, therefore, support this eligibility, as well as any requests for reasonable accommodations. The following guidelines describe the necessary components of acceptable documentation for students with Physical Disabilities. Students are encouraged to provide their clinicians with a copy of these guidelines.

Students requesting accommodations on the basis of orthopedic and other chronic health conditions must provide documentation consisting of **all** the following:

- Medical or other licensed professional describing the nature of the condition.
- Documentation must be **recent** in order to assess the current impact on academic functioning. The currency of documentation needed is assessed on a case to case basis by the SAO coordinator.
- Documentation must be **comprehensive** and establish clear evidence of a **significant** impact on academic functioning.
- Documentation must be relevant to requested accommodations.

\*Examples of orthopedic disabilities include, but are not limited to, clubfoot, absence of a limb, poliomyelitis, bone tuberculosis, cerebral palsy, and amputation, or any other condition which substantially limits a student's participation academically.

\*Examples of other medical conditions include, but are not limited to, heart condition, tuberculosis, rheumatic fever, nephritis, asthma, sickle cell anemia, AIDS, hemophilia, epilepsy, lead poisoning, leukemia, diabetes or Tourette syndrome, and carpal tunnel syndrome, or any other condition which substantially limits a student's participation academically.

**\*Please note that the University and Student Access Office reserve the right to deny services or accommodations while the receipt of appropriate documentation is pending.**