Physical, Mobility, and Chronic, Health-Related Disabilities

Muhlenberg College students with diagnosed disabilities are eligible for protections under the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) (revised in 2008) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (as amended). The ADA Amendments Act 2008 retains the definition of a "disability" as (a) a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of an individual; (b) a record of such an impairment; or (c) being regarded as having such an impairment.

Students requesting accommodations, auxiliary aids, and services accommodations based on a diagnosis of physical, mobility, or health-related conditions must submit current, detailed documentation from an appropriately qualified a licensed health care professional who is:

- qualified to diagnosis the disability,
- currently or recently associated with the student in a health care professional/patient relationship,
- familiar with the challenges and functional requirements of a college environment that may be impacted by the condition,
- an impartial evaluator or diagnostician who is not a family member nor in a dual relationship with the student,
- qualified to verify the presence of a condition that rises to the level of a disability and confirms the need for reasonable accommodations based on the diagnosed condition.

The Evaluation prepared by the diagnosing medical professional should include information designated by the bulleted items listed below and be written on letterhead with a signature and credentials listed. The diagnosis must reflect the student's present and projected level of functioning in the major life activity affected by the disability, and include recommendations for accommodations.

- Information regarding the nature and cause of the condition, including age/time of onset
- A clear diagnostic statement including:
  - a summary of assessment procedures & evaluation instruments used to make the diagnosis
  - a summary of present conditions and the date of the most recent evaluation
- The expected duration, stability, or progression of the condition
- The current impact of (or limitations imposed by) the condition
- A statement of the significant impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities and the degree to which it impacts the individual in the post secondary environment
- Treatments medications, devices, and services currently prescribed or used to minimize the impact of the condition
- A statement of the level of need for the requested accommodation and a clear connection between the diagnosis, the impact of the condition, and the recommended accommodation

Muhlenberg College - Office of Disability Services
Adapted from AHEAD Best Practices
ETS - Education Testing Services Guidelines