Traumatic Brain Injury

Disability Documentation

(Trauma to the brain resulting from cerebral vascular accidents, tumors, or other medical conditions)

Students requesting accommodations on the basis of a traumatic brain injury (TBI) or brain insult must provide documentation by a neuropsychologist. The documentation must include:

- Thorough neuropsychological evaluation including assessment of the areas of attention, visuoperception/visual reasoning, language, academic skills, memory/learning, executive function, sensory, motor, and emotional status. Data should include subtest scores and percentiles.

- Evidence of current impairment. A history of individual's presenting symptoms and evidence of behaviors that significantly impair functioning.

- A diagnostic interview. The interview must contain self-report and third-party information pertaining to: developmental history, family history, learning or psychological difficulties, relevant medical history, and a thorough academic history.

- Evidence of alternative diagnoses or explanations ruled out. The documentation must investigate and discuss the possibility of dual diagnoses and alternative or coexisting mood, learning, behavioral, and/or personality disorders that may confound the diagnosis.

- A specific psychological diagnosis as per the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual - IV (DSM-IV).

- A clinical summary which: (a) indicates the substantial limitations to major life activities posed by the disability, (b) describes the extent to which these limitations would impact the academic context for which accommodations are being requested, and (c) suggests how the specific effects of the disability may be accommodated, and (d) states how the effects of the disability are mediated by the recommended accommodations.

Additional Supporting Materials

Additional supporting materials may include the following:

- Records of accommodations/services provided to you at any previous academic settings (e.g., IEP, Section 504 plan, college service plan, etc.

- Record of accommodations provided for any national standardized exams (e.g., ACT, SAT, GRE, LSAT, etc.)