

# Guidelines for the Documentation of Vision Disabilities

Students who are seeking support services from Washington State University Tri-Cities on the basis of a vision disability may be required to submit documentation of a disability to verify eligibility. Documentation of disability and related information will be kept in a separate file in the Disability Services Office. The cost and responsibility for providing this documentation shall be borne by the student.

Documentation should show current impact of the disability. The following guidelines are provided in the interest of assuring that the evaluation and report are appropriate for documenting eligibility and identifying appropriate academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids.

Any vision loss evaluation would be considered to be in the medical domain and require the expertise of a qualified licensed eye care professional. The documentation should include:

1. **The date of most recent visit**, diagnosis of the eye disorder, and its pathology specific to this individual;
2. **A brief description** of the severity of the vision loss, and current impact or limitations;
3. Any medically relevant testing results;
4. **A description** of assistive devices or services currently prescribed or in use, including the possible effectiveness of these devices or services in an educational setting;
5. **A description** of the expected progression or stability of the vision loss over time.

Suggestions of academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids with supporting evidence may be included. The final determination for providing appropriate academic adjustments and auxiliary aids rests with Washington State University's Disability Services Office.