

Disability Services

Take control of your College experience. Start now, by visiting the Disability Services Coordinator, 69 Griffin Hall.

Documentation assists in determining if the student has a disability and is therefore eligible to receive reasonable accommodations.

*Saint Mary's University of Minnesota, 700 Terrace Heights #44, Winona, MN 55987
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Guiding Principles in College

Disabilities in College fall under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the ADA. You have an equal opportunity to achieve a college degree.

Accommodations provided through Disability Services are based on your documentation and are to provide you access without fundamentally altering course curriculum.

In College you are responsible for your own success or failure. Your first step toward success at Saint Mary's would be to meet with the Disabilities Services Coordinator and bring a copy of your documentation the first week of classes. Additional steps you can take would be to use the course syllabi to keep track of

due dates, attendance guidelines, and late assignment and/or make-up test policies.

Remember, it's up to you to read and understand the assigned material; the lectures and assignments proceed from the assumption that you have done so. If you find yourself experiencing difficulty understanding the material, talk with your instructor. You can also sign-up for free peer tutoring in the Academic Skills Center.

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General Guidelines for Documentation

Students who seek accommodations at Saint Mary's University must provide documentation from appropriate licensed professionals to the Disability Services Coordinator. This information assists in determining if the student has a disability and is therefore eligible to receive reasonable accommodations.

In general, the documentation should:

- Be provided by the licensed professional, qualified in the appropriate specialty area; the reports should be on letterhead, dated and signed.
- Include both diagnostic information and an explanation of the current functional limitations of the condition. It should be thorough enough to explain what the extent, duration, and impact of the condition is.
- In most cases, it should be relatively recent; a suggested guideline is less than 3 years old. Documentation of conditions that are permanent or non-varying (e.g., a sensory disability) may not need to be recent, but some chronic and/or changing conditions, such as psychiatric disabilities, require even more current information (within 1 year) to provide an accurate picture of functioning.
- Address the impact of medication or other treatments on major life activities.
- Be detailed enough to support the accommodations that are being requested.