**Accessibility Services (AS)**



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DOCUMENTATION GUIDELINES FOR **HEARING** DISABILITIES

# Disability Category:

* Hearing Impairment

# Professional Diagnostician(s) to be consulted:

* Certified Otologist
* Audiologist

# Guidelines

* Documentation of a disability must be generated by a medical or professional expert in the related field of disability and submitted in writing to Accessibility Services where it will be kept in a separate, confidential file. *(NOTE: A diagnosis of a disorder/condition/syndrome in and of itself does not automatically qualify an individual for accommodations under the ADA, Section 504 or Washington State Law).*
* A hearing loss can range from mild to profound. Each student’s hearing loss, background, course of study, and sign language preferences should be considered in the documentation.
* Any hearing loss evaluation is considered to be in the medical domain and requires the expertise of a credentialed audiologist (CCC—Certificate of Clinical Competence). Information describing the certification, licensure, and/or the professional training of individuals conducting the evaluation must be provided.

# Documentation

* Documentation should show historical and/or recent impact of the disability to support individual “self-report”. The documentation should include the following components:
* A copy of the audiology report;
* A brief written description of the severity of the hearing loss;
* A description of assistive devices/services currently prescribed or in use, including the possible effectiveness of these devices or services in an educational setting (note: hearing aids are considered devices of a personal nature and their cost and maintenance are the responsibility borne by the student);
* A description of the expected progression or stability of the hearing loss over time;
* Suggestions of accommodations with supporting evidence may included.

**Please Note:** The final determination for providing appropriate accommodations rests with the Accessibility Services Office and Grays Harbor College.