

Documentation Guidelines
For
Rehabilitated Drug Addiction / Alcoholism

Professionals who are qualified for diagnosing, treating and providing documentation for individuals who have been rehabilitated for drug addiction or alcoholism include physicians with a specialty in addiction; clinical psychiatrists and licensed mental health professionals of State Health Department certified addiction counselors who are supervised by psychologists or psychiatrists. The diagnostician must be an impartial individual who is not a family member of the student.

The term “qualified individual with a disability” shall not include any student who is currently engaging in the illegal use of drugs or alcohol.

The following guidelines are provided to assist the service provider in collaborating with each student to determine appropriate accommodations. Documentation serves as the foundation that legitimizes a student’s request for appropriate accommodations. Recommended documentation includes:

1. A clear statement of successful completion of a supervised drug / alcohol rehabilitation program with a DSM-IV diagnosis. A dated statement attesting to the compliance with appropriate post-rehabilitation treatment (the age of acceptable documentation is dependent upon the disabling condition, the current status of the student and the student’s request for accommodations);
2. A summary of assessment procedures and evaluation instruments used to make the diagnosis;
3. A summary of qualitative and quantitative information that supports the diagnosis and the impact on the current level of functioning of the student;
4. Medical information related to the student’s needs to include the impact of medication on the student’s ability to meet the demands of the postsecondary environment;
5. Suggestions of reasonable accommodations that might be appropriate at the post-secondary level are encouraged. These recommendations should be supported by the documentation.

Further assessment by an appropriate professional may be required if co-existing learning disabilities or other disabling conditions are indicated. The student and the Disability Specialist at the University of Denver collaboratively determine appropriate accommodations.