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Accessible Learning

VISION: Disability Verification

This form should be completed by one of the following appropriately licensed and trained Health Care Professionals (HCP):
Family Physician, Ophthalmologist, Optician, or Optometrist.

SECTION A: TO BE COMPLETED BY STUDENT

Please print clearly in black or blue ink

STUDENT INFORMATION:

Last Name: _____ **Preferred/Given Name:** _____

Date of Birth: _____ **Student Number:** _____

Phone: _____ **Laurier Email:** _____@mylaurier.ca

ABOUT THIS FORM:

Accessible Learning Centre requires confirmation of the student's presenting diagnosis and disability status. Information about how the disability condition impacts the student's access the academic environment is used as a part of the Accessible Learning assessment to determine eligibility for academic accommodations in the post-secondary environment. Accessible Learning will also use this information to determine eligibility for disability related services and/or equipment while attending Wilfrid Laurier University. Note: The student may be required to provide an updated assessment using this form should the nature and severity of the condition change and require additional accommodation supports.

CONFIDENTIALITY:

Information provided to Accessible Learning is kept ***strictly confidential*** and will not be shared with anyone outside of Accessible Learning. Information will not be released without the expressed written consent of the student.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION & ACCOMMODATION PLANNING:

The information provided in this form will be used to determine eligibility for academic accommodation.

STUDENT DECLARATION:

Documentation completed by a relative of a student will not be accepted due to professional and ethical considerations, even when the relative is otherwise qualified to do so. The provider signing this form must be the same person answering the questions in *Section* B of the form below.

I confirm that the individual completing *Section B* of this verification form is **not** a relative of mine. ☐ YES ☐ NO

CONTACT WITH MY HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL:

I give consent for Accessible Learning to contact my HCP to discuss information provided in this document, if necessary, to a) clarify information regarding my functional limitations and/or; b) obtain information for provision of academic accommodations at Wilfrid Laurier University. ☐ YES ☐ NO

RELEASE OF INFORMATION:

I hereby authorize my HCP, who is completing and signing this form, to share information with Laurier's Accessible Learning about my disability and its functional impacts. By signing this form, I certify that the information provided is true. Misrepresentation of facts in connection with this form may be sufficient cause, in and of itself, for suspension of access to academic accommodations whenever discovered.

Student Signature: Date:

Student's Informed Release is done in accordance with the following sections of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act: 41.(1) (a), 41.(1)(b), and 41.(1)(c) allowing for the use of personal information and sections 42.(1)(b), 42 (1)(c), and 42(1)(d) allowing for the disclosure of personal information.

SECTION B: TO BE COMPLETED BY HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL

Please print clearly in black or blue ink

HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL (HCP):

Accessible Learning relies on your detailed knowledge of this student's disability, especially how its **limitations or restrictions may impact their learning and participation** in post-secondary education. Careful consideration should be given to the **verification of disability** and **degree of functional limitation** in the sections below.
Documentation completed by a relative of the student will not be accepted due to professional and ethical considerations, even when the relative is otherwise qualified to do so. The provider signing this form must be the same person answering the questions on the form below.

In order to complete the questions below, I am basing my responses on:

☐ An assessment I completed with the student.

☐ A previous assessment completed by _____
(psychologist/psychiatrist/family physician's name), on _____ (date).

VERIFICATION OF DISABILITY:

Disability is defined as a functional limitation due to the disorder that restricts the student's ability to perform daily activities necessary to participate in post-secondary studies. ***Please verify disability status by initialing in the appropriate box below:***

☐ I confirm that this student **has a disability** according to the criteria outlined above.

☐ Pending: I am **in the process of monitoring and assessing** the student's condition.

☐ I confirm that this student **does not present with a disability** according to the criteria outlined above.

VERIFICATION OF DIAGNOSIS:

Please provide a clear diagnostic statement. (Avoid phrases 'suggests', 'is indicative of', etc.) **NOTE:** Indicate any co-existing conditions.

Primary:	**Date:**
Secondary:	**Date:**
Is the student legally blind?	☐ Yes ☐ NO
Additional information:	

DURATION OF DISABILITY CONDITION: (Please initial in the appropriate box below)	
☐ **PERMANENT**:	Ongoing and continuous, will impact the student over the course of their academic career, *and* is expected to remain for their expected life.
☐ **PERSISTENT OR PROLONGED:** **Condition expected to last _____ months**	Ongoing and continuous, will impact the student over the course of their academic career *and* is expected to last at least 12 months, *and* is not a permanent disability.
☐ **TEMPORARY:** **Condition expected to last _____ months**	Condition is not expected to be pervasive, continuous or recurrent/episodic in nature, *and* is expected to last no more than 12 months.
☐ **PROVISIONAL:** **Assessment expected to take _____ months**	I am still assessing the student.

DISABILITY INFORMATION:		
Student's current visual acuity: _____		
Does student have challenges with changing focus? (E.g. text book to whiteboard/blackboard & vice versa) If yes, describe: _____	☐ YES	☐ NO
Does the student have challenges with scanning? (E.g., linear or columns; movement or print) If yes, describe: _____	☐ YES	☐ NO
Does the student have challenges discriminating images/fine detail? (E.g. pictures, physical environment, movement) If yes, describe: _____	☐ YES	☐ NO
Does the student have difficulties distinguishing foreground from background & vice versa? If yes, describe: _____	☐ YES	☐ NO
Does the student have challenges with colour perception? If yes, describe: _____	☐ YES	☐ NO
Does the student have challenges with glare? If yes, describe: _____	☐ YES	☐ NO
Does the student have challenges with night vision? If yes, describe: _____	☐ YES	☐ NO
Does the student have challenges with mobility/navigation? If yes, describe: _____	☐ YES	☐ NO
Does the student have challenges with balance and co-ordination? If yes, describe: _____	☐ YES	☐ NO

Is the student's sleeping impacted by this condition? ☐ YES ☐ NO

If yes, describe: _____

Is the student's functioning restricted at certain times of the day? If so, specify:
☐ Morning
☐ Afternoon
☐ Evening

AIDS/SUPPORTS USED BY THE STUDENT: (check all that apply)

☐ Screen-reading technology
☐ White cane
☐ GPS for wayfinding
☐ CCTV
☐ Intervenor/Support Person
☐ Text enlargement (e.g. magnifiers)
☐ Dark or Specialized Glasses
☐ Colour Paper: _____
☐ Guide Dog for the Blind
☐ Other:

Does the student have a history of accessing public/insurance funding for adaptive equipment/technology (Ontario Assistive Devices Program or similar)? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Does the student require alternative-to-print (e.g. enlargement, audio text, Braille)? ☐ YES ☐ NO

If yes, describe: _____

Is the student proficient in the use of the above-referenced aids/supports? ☐ YES ☐ NO

If no, describe plans for training/assistance:

_____

Does the student require **Orientation & Mobility Training** of the WLU campus? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Does the student require a *Safety Plan (safe evacuation)*? ☐ YES ☐ NO

If yes specify: _____

ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES:

In the following section, please indicate the level of impact of the student's disability and their associated symptoms/restrictions on the following activities expected of them in a university environment. Please use the following scale:

***No Limitation*:** The student does not require academic accommodation.
Mild: The student should be able to cope with minimal support.
Moderate: The student requires academic accommodation, as symptoms are more prominent.
***Severe*:** The student has a high degree of impairment with significant academic accommodation required, as symptoms impact and interfere with academic functioning.
***Unknown*:** Unknown or unable to assess at this time.

Activity	*No Limitation*	*Mild*	*Moderate*	*Severe*	*Unknown*
Attending Class					
Participating in Class Discussions					
Participating in Group Projects/Tasks					
Delivering Presentations					
Taking Notes					

Completing Exams					
Time Management					
Organization					
Planning					
Managing Multiple Academic Tasks					
Managing Competing Deadlines					
Information processing (visual)					
Information processing (writing)					
Information processing (reading)					
Other (please describe):					
Comments:					

REDUCED COURSE LOAD (as a REQUIRED academic accommodation):

Does the nature and severity of the student's disability limit participation in:

Activities of daily living? ☐ YES ☐ NO

The academic environment? ☐ YES ☐ NO

Does the nature and severity of the student's disability **require** a reduced course load to mitigate the symptoms of the condition? ☐ YES ☐ NO

A full course load is 15-20 hours of class, lab, or tutorial meetings per week, plus 25-30 hours of study time per week, depending upon the program

If yes, please estimate the **maximum** amount of time in hours per week that the student should be able to spend in these activities: _____

Will the reduced course load be required for the whole duration of the academic program to mitigate symptoms of the condition (for permanent, episodic, and persistent/prolonged conditions only)? ☐ YES ☐ NO

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Please use this space to provide any other information about the student's disability and their functional limitations that Laurier should consider in supporting the student.

HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION:		
Name: (Please PRINT)		
Facility Name and Address (Please use Official Stamp) (Note: If you do not have an office stamp, please sign, date, and attach a page of your Office Letterhead)		
	Specialty:	
	☐ **Family Physician**	☐ **Ophthalmologist**
	☐ **Optician**	☐ **Optometrist**
Health Care Professional Signature:	**Registration/License No.:**	
Date completed:	**Phone:**	

How to Submit Form:

This document, once completed by your Health Care Practitioner, should be uploaded with your online student application on *Accessible Learning Online* . Visit *Accessible Learning* for uploading instructions or contact us at accessible_learning@wlu.ca

Please note that the Accessible Learning will review the submitted application and contact the student within 5-10 business days to begin the registration process.

Updated July 2023.