



# BOSTON COLLEGE

## Documentation Guidelines for Traumatic Brain Injuries

Boston College is committed to providing reasonable accommodations and modification for students with disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. To establish that an individual is covered under the law, the documentation must explain how the disability substantially limits one or more major life activities, and supports the request for services, accommodations, academic adjustments, and/or auxiliary aids.

Students who wish to request academic accommodations based on a traumatic brain injury must submit documentation from a specialist who is qualified to evaluate and diagnose traumatic brain injuries. The documentation should be in English and must be typed on the provider's letterhead. It should also be signed and dated and include the following information:

- Diagnosis
- Description of the student's functional limitations relevant to an academic setting
- Current treatment plan
- Recommendation for accommodation(s)
- Justification for why recommended accommodation is medically necessary. There must be a very clear connection between the functional limitation(s) described and the recommended accommodation

### **\*A neuropsychological evaluation if one has been conducted**

Documentation should be current (**within six months**) and should address the student's need for accommodation(s) based on the student's **current level of functioning** within an educational setting. Updated documentation will be required after each semester of receiving services or accommodations given that students are expected to recover from this condition.

Diagnosis of a TBI documented by family members will not be accepted due to professional and ethical considerations even when the family member is otherwise qualified by virtue of licensure/certification. The issue of dual relationships as defined by various codes of professional ethics should be considered in determining whether a professional is in an appropriate position to provide the necessary documentation.