Guidelines for Documentation of Vision Disabilities

Documentation of a Vision Disability must come from a licensed professional on their official letterhead; and must contain their name, address, credentials, and a signature. The following professionals are considered qualified:

- Ophthalmologist,
- Optometrist, or
- Licensed Medical Specialist with expertise in the assessment and diagnosis of visual impairments.

The documentation should be recent (in most cases, no more than three years old) and should include:

1) A Statement of Condition or Diagnosis, including a clear diagnostic statement describing how the condition was diagnosed and detailing the anticipated and/or typical progression or prognosis of the condition.

2) Diagnostic Methodology, including a description of the diagnostic criteria, evaluation methods, procedures, tests and dates of administration, as well as a clinical narrative, observation, and specific results. At minimum, an ocular assessment describing visual acuity and field of vision must be included.

3) Information regarding how the Condition Substantially Limits Major Life Functions, including a clear sense of the severity, frequency and pervasiveness of the condition.

4) Current Treatment.

5) Specific Recommendations for Reasonable Accommodations and an Explanation of the need for Specific Recommendations.

Please forward the requested information to:

Disability Services Center, Craig-Lee 127
Rhode Island College, 600 Mount Pleasant Avenue
Providence, RI 02908
Voice: 401-456-2776, Fax: 401-456-9525

NOTE: If you have NOT yet registered with the Disability Services Center, please DO NOT MAIL (or FAX) your documentation. Please bring it with you to your first appointment.