

## ***Documentation Guidelines for Chronic Health Disabilities***

Chronic health impairments (such as, but not limited to, AIDS, arthritis, Crohn's disease, cystic fibrosis, fibromyalgia, heart disease, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, respiratory conditions) are considered disabilities under ADA *if a major life activity is substantially limited*.

Recommended documentation includes:

1. A clear and current statement of the medical diagnosis of the condition with supporting data (the age of acceptable documentation is dependent upon the disabling condition, the current status of the student, and the student's request for reasonable accommodations).
2. A summary of assessment procedures and evaluation instruments used to make the diagnosis, including evaluation results and standardized scores if applicable.
3. A description of present symptoms which meet the criteria for diagnosis.
4. Medical information relating to the student's needs should include the impact of treatments, medications, devices or services currently prescribed.
5. Suggestions of reasonable accommodation(s), which might be appropriate at the postsecondary level, are encouraged. These recommendations should be supported by the diagnosis.

All documentation is confidential and should be submitted to:

**Gaston College Counseling Center  
Attention: Special Needs Counselor  
201 Highway 321 South  
Dallas, NC 28034  
Fax: (704) 922-2345**