

Elizabethtown College Disability Documentation for Housing Accommodations

Elizabethtown College is a four-year residential college, and we are committed to the full participation of students with disabilities in our residential living communities. We believe that learning to live in a shared community is an integral part of our students' development and educational experience.

Elizabethtown College has residential buildings with a variety of housing options. A traditional housing assignment in a residence hall is a two or three-person room with bathroom facilities on the same floor and access to a shared kitchen and shared laundry. While shared kitchens are available, all students living in residence halls must have a college meal plan. There are a very limited number of single rooms. There are also options for students who require first floor housing or year-round air conditioning due to a diagnosed health condition. A traditional housing assignment in an independent living unit, available by lottery to juniors and seniors, is 4 people in a two-bedroom unit with a shared bath, kitchen, and living area. There are a limited number of independent living units with one two-person room and two single rooms. Laundry facilities are either in the same building or in a building in a centrally located common building.

Accommodations in the residential halls and independent living units may be granted for students when a diagnosed disability prevents them from accessing certain areas of campus housing. Accommodations are not granted when the request is based on a preference or a desire for a particular type of location or for a desire for a quiet, or undisturbed place to study. All residential housing units have recognized quiet hours.

A disability is defined under the Americans with Disabilities Act as "a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities." Examples of major life activities include walking, hearing, seeing, manual tasks, reading, working, learning, breathing, lifting, eating, sleeping, concentrating, speaking, thinking, standing, communicating, bending, self-care, the operation of major bodily function. A temporary impairment may include an injury, severe illness, recovery from surgery, or a condition caused by a traumatic event.

The healthcare professional offering recommendations for housing accommodations must be qualified to do so (generally trained, certified, members of a medical specialty; licensed psychologists or psychiatrists for mental health diagnoses). Please provide the information below on your professional letterhead with contact information included. As the student's request for an accommodation is being evaluated, we may need you to provide us with additional information. Thank you in advance for providing as much detail as possible in your responses.

1. Please provide the name and date of birth of the student requesting a disability-related housing accommodation.
2. Please indicate if under the ADA, this individual has a Disability or Temporary Impairment.
3. Please list the student's diagnosis(es) including DSM-5/ICD-10 Code(s).
4. Provide the date of diagnosis and whether the diagnosis was made by you or someone else.
5. Indicate the frequency of appointments (once a week, once a month, once every six months, once a year, less than once a year) with you and the date of your most recent appointment/evaluation.
6. Please describe in detail the symptoms (include frequency, severity, and duration) currently experienced by the student.
7. Please explain in detail how the disability impairs, interferes with, or substantially limits major life activities associated with living in a residential community.
8. Please provide the medication/dosage/frequency of current medications as well as any side effects.
9. List any medical or therapeutic equipment necessary for the student to have in their living space to manage the symptoms of their condition.
10. Given the standard housing assignments for residence halls and independent living units describe above, please describe and provide rationale for any modifications you are recommending accommodating the student's disability.
11. Please also explain how the modifications you recommend would address the functional limitations of the student's underlying condition.
12. What are some possible alternatives if meeting your primary recommendation is not possible?
13. Please indicate the length of time you are recommending these accommodations for this condition.
14. Please indicate whether and how this student may be at risk during an emergency evacuation (e.g. fire)

Please call 717.361.1227 if you have any questions.

Mail or fax the documentation to: Director of Disability Services Elizabethtown College One
Alpha Drive Elizabethtown, PA 17022 Fax: (717) 361-1556