

## VI. STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

### **Wabash College Policy Relating to Documentation and Accommodation**

Wabash College responds to the needs of students with disabilities as outlined in Section of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (PL 93-112) and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (PL 101-336). The College will provide persons with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs and services as afforded to other individuals. This is done in the most integrated setting appropriate to the needs of the individual with a disability.

Students with a disability are encouraged to inform the Disability Service Coordinator, Center Hall, of their disability. However, respect the student's right to confidentiality; the student's instructor and relevant College staff will be notified of the student's disability only after the student's written permission for his/her information to be shared.

Documentation of the disability must be on file in the Disability Service Office, Center Hall, before an accommodation will be recommended.

- An individual with a physical disability will provide documentation from a medical professional such as a physician, physical therapist, occupational therapist, ophthalmologist, optometrist, or audiologist.
- An individual with a condition affecting emotional or psychological functioning will provide documentation from an appropriate licensed psychologist or psychiatrist.
- An individual with a learning disability will provide documentation from a licensed psychologist, physician, or other specialist. The documentation will include a psychoeducational evaluation that has been administered within the last three years. Documentation must clearly state that a learning disability exists. As presented in the literature, a learning difference or a learning problem does not constitute a learning disability.

Once appropriate documentation is received, necessary academic accommodation will be determined.

- The student has the responsibility of deciding whether he/she will request accommodation. If he/she chooses accommodation, then the instructor for the courses for which accommodation is requested will be notified. The student is encouraged to communicate with his/her instructor or relevant staff about his/her disability as early in the semester as possible.
- Each request for accommodation must be assessed individually and the person with a disability must be an active participant in the assessment process.
- In the assessment process, available diagnostic information, the student's past experience, and recommendations from the student's instructor will be considered.

- Appropriate accommodations may include, but are not limited to, the following: relocating classes to an accessible room; removing structural barriers; providing interpreters and note takers; using assistive technologies; changing closed captioning and electronic content; providing electronic materials in large print; allowing lecturers to be aided in ending meetings; using a different meeting format; changing course load; and providing alternative assignments.
- If the requested accommodation is a course barrier, the student may appeal for a requirement the student will be afforded on the Curricular Appeals Committee.
- If no accommodation for the instructor is determined, the student has no accommodation needed in his or her course in the Disability Services Coordinator.

In the event that a student in a documented disability is not satisfied with a recommended accommodation, he is encouraged to work with the Disability Services Coordinator and his instructor to resolve the matter informally. However, if the student has remaining issues of concern, he may contact the Dean of Students.