



Eligibility Criteria: Students with Visual Disabilities

The Academy of Art University requires the following information to make informed decisions concerning academic accommodations for students with visual disabilities. Make a copy of all diagnostic reports for your own files before submitting them to Classroom Services.

General Guidelines:

- A qualified professional, such as an optometrist or ophthalmologist must provide a report documenting a visual disability. The report must include his/her name, title, license number (if applicable), signature and the date on letterhead stationary. Classroom Services will provide students with referrals upon request.
- Documentation must not be older than five years upon initial request of services.
- Documentation must be based on a comprehensive diagnostic evaluation. If the documentation is inadequate in scope or content, or does not address the individual's current level of functioning and need for accommodations, re-evaluation may be required.
- The cost of providing the required documentation is the responsibility of the student, not the university.

Documentation must contain the following:

- A diagnosis of the visual impairment, including its severity.
- A summary of assessment procedures and evaluation instruments used to diagnose the impairment.
- A description of functional limitations related to the impairment, especially those related to a post-secondary educational setting.
- A description of treatments and assistive devices and their estimated effectiveness in minimizing the impact of the impairment (i.e. corrective lenses, vision therapy, etc.).
- A prognosis of the impairment.
- Recommendations for accommodations and support services in a post-secondary educational setting and a rationale for each.

Accommodations and Support Services

Classroom Services, a part of the Academy Resource Center (ARC) is committed to ensuring equal access to educational opportunities for students with disabilities. Classroom Services reserves the right to request supplemental information to verify a student's current functional limitations. Once eligibility has been established in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, requests for accommodations will be reviewed each academic quarter, taking into consideration the Academy of Art University's obligation to provide equal access to educational opportunities, the student's current functional limitations and current course requirements. Classroom Services will not release disability-related information without written consent from the student.