

# **Documentation Requirements for Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing**

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, individuals with disabilities are guaranteed certain protections and rights to equal access to programs and services.

The following requirements are provided in the interest of assuring that students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing provide appropriate documentation to verify eligibility and to support requests for accommodations, academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids.

## **I. A Qualified Professional Must Conduct the Evaluation**

The report should include the name, title and professional credentials of the evaluator, including information about licensure and/or specialization.

## **II. Documentation Must be Current**

Although a hearing loss may be life-long, the severity of the condition may change over time. Testing that was conducted in elementary school will not include recommendations that are appropriate for college. Therefore, it is in the student's best interest to provide recent and appropriate documentation.

## **III. Necessary Components of the Evaluation**

- A. An audiological evaluation and/or audiogram.
- B. An interpretation of the functional implications of the diagnostic data and hearing aid evaluation when appropriate.
- C. Medical information relating to the student's needs and status of the student's hearing (static or changing) and its impact on the demands of a college program.
- D. A list of assistive technology and/or adaptive equipment currently being used, including a description of the equipment and its brand name.
- E. A rationale for each accommodation requested should be included in the report. A link must be established between the requested accommodation and the functional limitations of the individual pertinent to the educational situation.