Documentation Guidelines for Temporary Conditions

Temporary conditions or injuries do not last long (typically less than six months), are not chronic, and have little to no outstanding or lasting effects. Temporary conditions or injuries are not considered permanent disabilities and generally do not qualify as a disability under federal or state laws. The University of Houston-Downtown recognizes that temporary conditions and injuries can be problematic and may adversely affect a student’s ability to fully participate in class.

Examples of temporary conditions or injuries may include:

- A sprained or broken hand, finger, leg, or other joint that will heal completely within a few weeks or months
- Minor or non-chronic medical conditions or disorders that last only a few weeks
- Medical conditions that lasts only a few weeks without last effects
- Condition caused by an accident or injury that will heal under six months’ time with no last effects

A diagnosis of a disorder in and of itself does not automatically qualify an individual for accommodations; documentation from a qualified health professional must support the request for accommodations.

Documentation of temporary conditions should include:

1. **Diagnosis**
   - Clear statement of the medical condition
   - Date of onset
   - Date of last clinical contact – accommodations are based on an assessment of the current nature and impact of your disability.

2. **Evaluation**
   - Completed by a qualified professional
   - Assessment procedures and evaluation instruments that have been used to make the diagnosis
   - Narrative of evaluation results, if applicable
   - Present symptoms that meet the criteria for the diagnosis
   - Severity of symptoms
   - Current treatment
   - Prognosis

3. **Functional limitations**
   - Impact on major life activities
   - Any additional limitations
   - Special considerations