



Guidance for Medical Evidence Letters / Reports

The Disability Support Team at Northumbria University provides support for students who have:

- a long-term medical condition
- a sensory impairment
- a mobility impairment
- an autistic spectrum condition
- a diagnosed long term mental health condition
- a Specific Learning Difficulty (eg. Dyslexia or dyspraxia)

In order for this support to be provided, the student must provide the Disabilities Adviser with medical evidence / a suitable report.

For all conditions other than Specific Learning Difficulties, the medical evidence letter / report should include:

- Stated diagnosis
- If the condition is long/short term
- If the condition is fluctuating
- An outline of the effect the disability may have on learning/attendance at University
- The impact, if any, on day to day activities

For example, does the condition affect:

- Concentration
- Motivation
- Short/long term memory
- Ability to travel on public transport
- Read/writing for long periods
- Use of computers
- Ability to walk any distance

The above suggestions are not exhaustive, and are only examples of the kind of evidence the Disability Support Team requires in order to support a student.

The medical evidence should be provided by a suitably qualified medical professional, such as a GP or consultant, on headed paper and the letter should be typed and signed. Ideally, the letter should have been written within the last 6 -12 months. The letter should be obtained by the student, for them to send directly to the University.

Please note that the University is unable to contact medical professionals to request or discuss medical evidence.

Students with Specific Learning Difficulties (eg Dyslexia or dyspraxia)

A report by an Educational Psychologist (or other qualified professional) confirming dyslexia/specific learning difficulties is required. If you do not have such a report, Northumbria University can arrange an assessment. Please contact our team via sv.disability@northumbria.ac.uk or your student portal to discuss this.