HEARING DISABILITIES

Students who are seeking support services from the Center for Disability Services (CDS) at Everett Community College (EvCC) on the basis of a hearing disability will be required to submit documentation to verify eligibility of services. Documentation of disability and related information will be kept in a separate file in the CDS office. The cost and responsibility for providing this documentation shall be borne by the student.

A hearing loss can range from mild to profound. Each student’s hearing loss, background, course of study, and language preferences will be considered when determining appropriate academic adjustments. Students’ self perceptions and communication strengths are often at variance with external measures of hearing loss.

Any hearing loss evaluation would be considered to be in the medical domain and require the expertise of a credentialed audiologist (CCC – Certificate of Clinical Competence). Information must be provided describing the certification, licensure, and/or the professional training of individuals conducting the evaluation.

Documentation should show current impact of the disability. The age of acceptable documentation is dependent upon the stability of the hearing loss. The following guidelines are provided in the interest of assuring that the evaluation and report are appropriate for documenting eligibility and identifying academic adjustments. The documentation should be signed by someone who has the credentials to diagnose that type of a disability, and should include:

1. A copy of the audiology report;
2. A brief description of the severity of the hearing loss;
3. A description of assistive devices/services currently prescribed or in use, including the possible effectiveness of these devices or services in an educational setting;
4. A description of the expected progression or stability of the hearing loss over time.

Suggestions of academic adjustments with supporting evidence may be included. The final determination for providing appropriate adjustments is determined by Everett Community College.

*Everett Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, creed, color, national origin, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, the presence of any physical, sensory or mental disability, or status as a disabled or Vietnam era veteran in its program and activities or employment.*