GUIDELINES FOR DOCUMENTATION OF VISUAL DISORDERS/NOT ACUITY

Students who are seeking special services, at Baker College on the basis of having been diagnosed with visual disorders/Not Acuity, learning-related visual disabilities include, but are not limited to:

- Ocular motility dysfunction/eye movement disorders
- Vergence dysfunction/inefficiency in using both eyes together
- Strabismus/misalignment of the eyes
- Amblyopia/lazy eye
- Accommodative disorders/focusing problems
- Visual sensory disorders
- Motor integration

The qualified professional in this field is licensed to practice as an optometrist and is a Fellow of the College of Optometrists in vision Development. The diagnostician must be impartial and not a family member.

The following documentation guidelines will assist the Disability Service Coordinator in collaborating with each student to determine appropriate accommodations. Documentation serves as a foundation that supports a student’s request for appropriate accommodations. Recommended documentation includes all of the following:

1. A clear statement of the learning-related visual disability. Documentation must reflect the current impact the disability has on the student’s functioning.

2. A summary of assessment procedures and evaluation instruments used to make the diagnosis and a summary of evaluation results, including standardized scores.

3. Present symptoms that meet the criteria for diagnosis.

4. Medical information relating to the student’s needs and the status of the individual’s vision (static or changing) and its impact on the demands of the academic program.

5. Narrative or descriptive text providing both quantitative and qualitative information about the student’s abilities which might be helpful in understanding the student’s profile, including the use of corrective lenses and ongoing visual therapy (if appropriate).

Further assessment by an appropriate professional may be required if co-existing learning disabilities other disabling conditions are indicated. The student and the Disability Services Coordinator collaboratively determine appropriate accommodations.