

Texas Christian University

Center for Academic Services



~Services for Students with Disabilities~
Sadler Hall, Room 1010, TCU Box 297710



Ft. Worth, Texas 76129

817-257-6567

http://www.acs.tcu.edu/disability_services.asp

Confidentiality General Facts

- Confidential student disabilities documentation is securely maintained in the Student Disabilities Services office located in the Center for Academic Services. Disabilities documentation is kept apart from the student's TCU academic record. Confidentiality of information and documentation is maintained by the Coordinator and the Coordinator's designee.
- Confidentiality of disability-related documentation is very important within the disabilities services. In part, this stems from the fact that one is not considered a person with a disability and entitled to protection under federal law unless s/he chooses to identify as such and to request that protection. This is the only federal civil rights law that acknowledges the right of the individual not to be included within the protected class.
- Students with disabilities are protected from discrimination under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act as amended. Recognizing that discrimination often occurs as a result of attitudinal barriers and misconceptions regarding the potential of persons with disabilities, these mandates presume that the U.S. Constitutional right to privacy applies to the treatment of disability related information.
- **Faculty Considerations:**
 - It is essential that disability information be kept confidential. At no time should the class be informed that a student has a disability, except at the student's request. Any information that a student gives to the faculty member is to be used only for arranging accommodations for the course of study and may not be disclosed to other faculty members, staff, etc.
 - Care should be taken to avoid inadvertently disclosing disability and accommodation information. For Example, avoid statements such as this, "Jane doe will take her exam in the conference room."