



Information on medical certificates

This information sheet provides helpful guidance on medical certificates. You are welcome to share it with your doctor(s).

Please note, this translation is provided for information purposes only. In case of any ambiguity or discrepancy, the original German version shall prevail.

Overview

[1. When do you need to provide a medical certificate? on page 1 ↗](#)

[2. Recommended information on page 1 ↗](#)

[3. Optional information on page 2 ↗](#)

[4. Contact details on page 2 ↗](#)

1. When do you need to provide a medical certificate?

Medical certificates are not accepted for hardship applications – see the information sheet on hardship applications for details!

You must provide a medical certificate if you are applying for compensation for disadvantages in your studies and/or examinations. The medical certificate should be no more than six months old. In exceptional cases (i.e. for illnesses that are/remain constant), it can be up to twelve months old. The certificate must be comprehensible to medical laypersons and contain accurate medical information. The medical certificate can be issued by a specialist doctor or psychotherapist, whereby the latter must hold a licence to practice medicine and have also completed professional training in psychology. Depending on the impairment, a certificate from a general practitioner is usually not sufficient. An expert opinion is not needed. Ideally, you should obtain the medical certificate from a doctor, who has been treating you for some time.

2. Recommended information

- letterhead, doctor's name and stamp, date, signature
- patient's name and address
- Since when has the patient suffered from this disability/chronic illness?
- Is the disability/chronic illness or health impairment likely to continue or is a change to the symptoms or state of health to be expected?



- What are the consequences of your disability/chronic illness or health impairment and to what extent does it affect your ability to study or take examinations? Mention the frequency (hours/days/weeks) of any inability to study or take examinations.
- Which specific illness-related impairments relevant to your studies and examinations arise from your disability/chronic illness? These must be described in detail (e.g. pain, writing disorder, concentration problems or similar).



3. Optional information

- Can an opinion be given on which compensation for disadvantages may be appropriate from a medical point of view (e.g. modification of compulsory attendance, extension of writing time/breaks or similar)? This is always to be understood as a recommendation.
- How long have you been in treatment?
- ICD-10 code
- Are hospital stays or operations foreseeable?
- Does your disability/chronic illness restrict your ability to study or take examinations either permanently or periodically? If so, when or for how long?
- Has the doctor been released from their duty of confidentiality? Are they available to answer any further questions?



4. Contact details

Beratungsstelle Studium mit Beeinträchtigung

Representative for students with disabilities and chronic illnesses

Disability Advisory Service

Unter den Linden 6, 10117 Berlin

Office hours and contact information hu.berlin/barrierefrei

E-Mail: barrierefrei.studieren@hu-berlin.de