

Information sheet Trier University of Applied Sciences: Certificate for the application for compensation for disadvantages

The certificate should contain statements by a doctor (preferably a medical specialist) that are comprehensible to medical non-experts. It should be titled: 'Certificate for submission to Trier University of Applied Sciences'. The following three main points should be explained to confirm the statements in the application for compensation for disadvantages:

1. Diagnosis, Anamnesis, Prognosis

- What disability/illness or learning disorder, e.g. dyslexia, do you have and since when, how severe is the disability/illness/learning disorder? Is the disability/illness/learning disorder or the resulting health restrictions likely to continue?
- If you are in ongoing treatment, this should be mentioned, at best with an indication of when and until when this is expected to take place.
- If this is the case, previous periods of complete inability to study should be named. Likewise, if applicable, periods/periods in which future incapacity to study is to be expected.

2. Description of the restrictions in studies and examinations

- What specific restrictions on your performance resulting from your disability/illness/learning disorder are relevant to your studies and examinations? (e.g. limited ability to perform, work and study, specific information on effects such as pain, writing disability, concentration problems, etc.). What is the specific disadvantage in terms of studying compared to students without a disability/illness/learning disorder?
- To what extent and what consequences do the restrictions have for your ability to work, study and take examinations, or specifically for your ability to complete coursework and examinations?
- If applicable, mention the frequency (hours/days/weeks) of partial/full incapacity to work and study that must be expected. This can also include specific time restrictions, e.g.: 'is only able to concentrate on work for a maximum of about 4 hours per day', and/or 'is only able to attend courses for a maximum of 4 hours per day', and/or 'is not able to attend courses with larger groups (e.g. in the case of autism)'.
- If necessary, advice that stress levels must be avoided, as stress promotes illness and can trigger new episodes of illness.

3. Naming possible measures for compensation for disadvantages

The certificate should contain statements as to which compensation for disadvantages appears appropriate from a medical point of view, for example:

- Courses (e.g. modification of compulsory attendance)
- Writing exams (e.g. writing time extension, hearing protection, enlarged font, etc.)
- Term papers and final theses (e.g. deadline extensions)

This is a medical certificate, not a detailed expert opinion! The relevant information outlined above is important to the extent that it enables the examination board to make a decision. The certificate must be issued on a headed sheet from the practice with the doctor's stamp, date, name and signature. A certificate on a prescription pad is not sufficient.