

Examples of Ways for Categorizing Disabilities

“Social construction means that society tends to divide people into arbitrary groups... These categories become so taken for granted that it is assumed that they represent absolute reality.

The categories can divide groups into those viewed positively and those negatively stereotyped...”

~ Rev. Laurie Thomas

Below are some examples of ways that disabilities are categorized:

Johns Hopkins's University

Types of Disabilities (http://web.jhu.edu/disabilities/faculty/types_of_disabilities)

Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorders

Blindness or Low Vision

Brain Injuries

Deaf/Hard-of-Hearing

Learning Disabilities

Medical Disabilities

Physical Disabilities

Psychiatric Disabilities

Speech and Language Disabilities

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Types of Disabilities (<http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/disabilityandhealth/types.html>)

Hearing

Vision

Movement

Thinking

Remembering

Learning

Communicating

Mental health

Social relationships

Wikipedia Definition of Disability: Disability is caused by impairments to various subsystems of the body – these can be broadly sorted into the following categories:
(<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Disability>)

Physical disability
Sensory disability
Visual impairment
Hearing impairment
Olfactory and gustatory impairment
Somatosensory impairment
Balance disorder
Intellectual disability
Mental health and emotional disabilities
Developmental disability
Nonvisible disabilities

Cornucopia of Disability Information (CODI): Categories of Disabilities
(<http://codi.tamucc.edu/archives/colleges/.gasouth/.categories.htm>)

Disability: An individual is considered to have a “disability” if that individual either (1) has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more of that person’s major life activities, (2) has a record of such an impairment, or (3) is regarded by the covered entity as having such an impairment.

Visual Impairments
Physical Impairments
Hearing Impairments
Specific Learning Disabilities
Speech Impairment
Other Impairments, not limited to conditions listed below
Cardiovascular and Circulatory Conditions
Mental, Psychological, or Personality Disorders
Blood Serum Disorders
Respiratory Disorders
Diabetes
Epilepsy

Other conditions that necessitate administrative or academic adjustment and that do not fit into any of the above categories may also qualify.