

Accession Medical Waiver Directorate

Common Disqualifying Diagnoses Waiver Considerations

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Below are some of the most common disqualifying diagnoses and general guidance on what is concerning and what may indicate resolution or stability. This is only a **general informative guide** and should **NOT** be interpreted as all-inclusive or as **official guidance or policy**. Cases are assessed and considered based on the individual's specific circumstances; one person receiving a waiver for the "same" condition does not mean another with that condition will be waived. Any questions should be directed to be AMWD.

Mental Health (Anxiety, Depression, Self-Harm, Suicidal Thoughts, Adjustment Disorders, Stress)

Typically Disqualifying:

- Any suicide attempt or psychiatric hospitalization in recent years
- Recent use of psychiatric medications within the past couple of years
- Suicidal thoughts or plans within the past year or two
- History of self-harm or substance abuse in the past couple of years
- Diagnosed personality disorders

May Be Waived If:

- The issue occurred many years ago and hasn't recurred
- The individual is functioning well at school, work, and socially for an extended time
- They've developed good coping skills and have a strong support system
- A current mental health professional recommends them as low risk
- No recent signs of distress or emotional instability

Asthma

Typically Disqualifying:

- Moderate to severe asthma, especially with recent ER visits or daily preventive medication use
- Breathing test results (PFTs) that are poor and that don't improve with treatment

May Be Waived If:

- Mild, with no limitations
 - No need for medication in the past few years (except for periodic rescue inhaler). No daily preventive medication use
 - Breathing tests show normal lung function
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Knee Conditions**Typically Disqualifying:**

- Recent dislocations, cartilage issues, or limited knee function
- Ongoing pain or weakness
- Surgery within the last 12 months
- History of some conditions that lead to pain in the near future

May Be Waived If:

- Condition is fully resolved (some conditions take 12+ months to fully heal after surgery)
 - The person has returned to full activity without limitations
 - Documentation shows good function and stability
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Back Pain**Typically Disqualifying:**

- Ongoing or recurring back pain, especially in the last 6 months
- Long-lasting episodes that required treatment
- History of underlying trauma leading to some types of bone fractures
- Underlying disc herniations

May Be Waived If:

- Pain is completely gone
 - No symptoms for at least 6–12 months
 - Able to participate in full physical activity
 - (Mostly) normal imaging
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Vision – Excessive Refractive Error (Very High Nearsightedness/Farsightedness)

Typically Disqualifying:

- Extremely high prescriptions (too far from normal range)
- Eye scans showing serious underlying issues

May Be Waived If:

- Prescription is borderline but correctable
 - Eye health is otherwise normal
 - Eye specialist confirms stability and no risk of further issues
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ADHD

Typically Disqualifying:

- Recently taking ADHD medication (time frame varies, minimum of 4 months)
- Recently using school or job accommodations (time frame varies, minimum of one semester)

May Be Waived If:

- Off medication and all accommodations for several months
 - Showing success at school or work without help
 - No major drop in performance when off all meds or accommodations
 - Good supporting documentation and a good physician evaluation
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Other Neuro-developmental/divergent conditions (i.e. Autism, Asperger's Syndrome)

Typically Disqualifying:

- Need for medication
- Recently using school or job accommodations
- Significant interpersonal relationship problems

May Be Waived If:

- Functioning reasonably well without need for medication or other accommodations
- Showing success at school or work without help
- No major drop in performance when off all meds or accommodations

- Good supporting documentation and a good physician evaluation
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Shoulder Issues

Typically Disqualifying:

- Recent or repeated dislocations
- Major injuries that haven't fully healed
- Significant pain, weakness, or limited movement

May Be Waived If:

- Single injury that's been surgically repaired (some conditions require 6-12 months to fully heal)
 - Fully recovered and back to sports or physical activity
 - Imaging and doctor reports show good recovery
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Eczema (Atopic Dermatitis)

Typically Disqualifying:

- Frequent or recent use of strong topical medications
- Recent treatment with oral meds, injectable meds or light therapy
- Ongoing need for dermatologist visits

May Be Waived If:

- Mild, manageable symptoms
 - No recent treatment with strong meds
 - Skin condition doesn't interfere with duties
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Hearing Loss

Typically Disqualifying:

- Moderate hearing loss in both ears
- Serious nerve-related hearing problems

May Be Waived If:

- Normal hearing in one ear
 - Moderate loss in just one ear
 - No signs of ongoing ear issues
 - No underlying cause of hearing loss
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Anemia

Typically Disqualifying:

- Ongoing or severe anemia
- Symptoms like fatigue or shortness of breath
- Inherited blood conditions like sickle cell
- Persistent underlying cause of anemia (e.g. blood loss)

May Be Waived If:

- Anemia is fully treated and symptoms resolved
 - No genetic or chronic condition involved
 - Good bloodwork and no ongoing blood loss
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Food Allergies

Typically Disqualifying:

- Severe reactions (anaphylaxis) to common foods like peanuts or shellfish
- Refusal (by member or allergist) to do allergy testing or food challenge
- Allergic to more than one food

May Be Waived If:

- Successfully completed allergy testing or food challenge
- Allergy has been treated or desensitized without the need for ongoing therapy
- Allergic to only one food
- Allergy symptoms are mild