Project Title: **Developing Documentation Standards and Guidelines for Academic Accommodations for Students with Mental Health Disabilities Attending Post-Secondary Institutions in Ontario**

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**Background**

This research study was carried out by researchers from Queen’s University and St. Lawrence College. Funding for this 30-month project, which began in January 2013, was provided by the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities under the *Mental Health Innovation Fund.*

**Goals:**

* Develop province-wide documentation standards and guidelines, taking into consideration the specific needs of post-secondary students with mental health disabilities.
* Develop training for students, faculty, access/disability advisors, student leaders and administrators, on how best to accommodate post-secondary students with mental health disabilities which could be consistently implemented across the province.
* Develop an information and resource handbook for students with mental health disabilities

**Sources of information:**

* Data-collection from five stakeholder groups in Fall 2013 and Winter 2014 (members of faculty, students with mental health disabilities, disability advisors, administrators and campus physicians), using
* Focus Groups
* On-line survey
* Consultations with the Ontario Human Rights Commission (OHRC)
* Consultation with psychiatrists and family physicians
* Visits to best practice sites: Queen’s University, Belfast, United Kingdom and The University of Manitoba
* Literature Review

**Deliverables**

1. Recommendations regarding standards and guidelines, institutional processes
2. Videos for faculty, students, parents on accommodation
3. Student Handbook