

Documentation Guidelines for Students with Learning Disabilities

Provision of all reasonable accommodations and services is based upon the current impact of the disability on academic performance. Recent and appropriate documentation must be provided. In most cases, this means that a diagnostic evaluation has been completed within the past three to five years. Flexibility in accepting documentation which exceeds a three to five year period may be appropriate on a case by case basis. If the documentation is inadequate in scope or content, or does not address the individual's current level of functioning and need for accommodations, reevaluation may be needed.

Documentation must include:

- A specific, current diagnosis as per the DSM-5 criteria
- Reports of psychological or neuropsychological testing should cover the following areas:

Aptitude and/or Achievement:

- A complete neuropsychological or psycho-educational battery
- Test results that measure and describe strengths or difficulties with both basic and higher level skills in reading, math, written expression, and, if relevant, foreign language acquisition.

Information Processing

 Specific areas of information processing (including but not limited to: short- and long-term memory; sequential memory; auditory and visual perception/processing; processing speed; executive functioning; motor ability) should be assessed.

Current Impact of the Disability

 A summary should include any substantial limitations to major life activities. Limitations should describe to what extent the student will be impacted in an academic setting.
Functional limitations listed can include, but are not limited to: communication or language skills; social interaction; sensory functioning; and sensitivity to environmental conditions.

Recommendations for Specific Reasonable Accommodations

- Should address the current and substantial impact of the disability on the student's academic functioning.
- o Should recommend reasonable accommodations pertaining to the individual's classroom, campus and housing needs.
- o How the effects of the disability are mediated by the recommended accommodations.

Please send documentation forms to: WPI Office of Accessibility Services Unity Hall - 5th Floor Worcester, MA 01609 P: 508.831.4908, F: 508.831.4158

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