



Documentation Guidelines for Students on the Autism Spectrum

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 psychiatric diagnosis as per the DSM-5, criteria for Autism, Asperger's Syndrome, or Pervasive Developmental Disorder – Not Otherwise Specified.
- Reports of psychological or neuropsychological testing should cover the following areas:

Aptitude and/or Achievement:

- A complete neuropsychological 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.

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.
- Should recommend reasonable accommodations pertaining to the individual's classroom, campus and housing needs.
- How the effects of the disability are mediated by the recommended accommodations.

Please send documentation forms to:

WPI Office of Accessibility Services

124 Daniels Hall

Worcester, MA 01609

P: 508.831.4908, F: 508.831.4158

AccessibilityServices@wpi.edu
