Guidelines for Documentation of a Learning Disability
ADD/ADHD

• Students requesting accommodations on the basis of attention deficit-hyperactivity disorder must provide documentation by a professional who has undergone comprehensive training and has relevant experience in differential diagnosis in the full range of psychiatric disorders (e.g. licensed clinical psychologist, neuropsychologist, psychiatrist and other relevantly trained medical doctors). The documentation must include:

  • Evidence of early impairment. The condition must have been exhibited in childhood in more than one setting.

  • Evidence of current impairment. A history of individual’s presenting attentional symptoms and evidence of current impulsive/hyperactive or inattentive behaviors.

  • Neuropsychological or psychoeducational assessments needed to determine the current impact of the disorder on the individual’s ability to function in an academic setting.

  • A specific psychological diagnosis as per the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual – IV (DSM-IV). Symptoms of hyperactivity/impulsivity which were present in childhood, and the current symptoms which have been present for at least the past six months and which impair functioning in two or more settings (e.g. school, work, and home) must also be identified.

  • A clinical summary which: (a) indicates the substantial limitations to major life activities posed by the disability, (b) describes in detail the extent to which these limitations would impact the academic context for which accommodations are being requested.

  • Additionally, document should be current; within three years.

*Please note that the University and the Office of Disability Support Services reserve the right to deny services or accommodations while the receipt of appropriate documentation is pending.