

Accessibility Services (AS) 1620 Edward P. Smith Dr., Aberdeen, WA 98520-7599 Phone: 360.538.4143 FAX: 360.538.4299 TDD: 360.538.4223

## DOCUMENTATION GUIDELINES FOR LEARNING DISABILITIES

## Disability Category:

• Learning Disability

## Professional Diagnostician(s) to be consulted:

- Psychologist,
- Neuropsychologist,
- School Psychologist, or
- Educational Specialist who have at least a Master's, Doctorate, or post-doctorate degree in their specialty.

## Guidelines

- Documentation of a disability must be generated by a medical or professional expert in the related field of disability and submitted in writing to Accessibility Services where it will be kept in a separate, confidential file. (NOTE: A diagnosis of a disorder/condition/syndrome in and of itself does not automatically qualify an individual for accommodations under the ADA, Section 504 or Washington State Law).
- The documentation should be prepared on **letterhead paper** from the diagnosing or attending appropriate professional (Licensure information and address and phone number need to be included).
- The documentation should include a description of the disability, names and results of tests administered (if appropriate), and a statement of how the disability impacts the student in an educational setting.
- Note clear and specific evidence which identifies specific learning disabilities and reflects the individual's historical and/or recent level of adult functioning in processing and intelligence, as well as achievement. Individual learning styles and learning differences in and of themselves do not specify or constitute a learning disability.
- Include in the report, the exact instruments used and procedures followed to assess the learning disabilities, test results (including subtests score data), a written interpretation of the results by the professional doing the evaluation, the name of the evaluator, and dates of testing.
- The diagnostician should provide sufficient data to support the particular academic adjustment or accommodations recommended.
- The diagnostician should address the student's ability to function in the college environment (ability to focus, organize one's time, attend class, work in groups, work independently, etc.).

• The diagnostician should rule out any alternative diagnoses or explanations of the functional learning limitations.

**Please Note:** IEP's or ITP's, and 504 Plans may be included as part of a more comprehensive assessment battery as described in this document. The final determination for providing appropriate accommodations rests with the Accessibility Services Office and Grays Harbor College.