

Student Accessibility Resources Guidelines for Documentation of ADD and ADHD

Dear Sir or Madam,

The purpose of this letter is to identify specific documentation needed in order to provide services from the Student Accessibility Resources office under the Americans with Disabilities Act as amended (ADAAA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The diagnosis of a disability alone does not automatically qualify a student for accommodations under these laws. To establish a need for a reasonable accommodation, documentation must indicate that the disability substantially limits one or more major life activities and support requests for services, accommodations, academic adjustments, and/or auxiliary aids.

Please provide the following information to our office on letterhead:

Students requesting accommodations on the basis of Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) and Attention Deficit-Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) must provide documentation by a professional who has undergone comprehensive training and has relevant experience in differential diagnosis and the full range of psychiatric disorders - e.g., licensed clinical psychologist, neurophysiologist, 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 the individual's presenting attentional symptoms and evidence of current impulsive/hyperactive or inattentive behaviors.
- A comprehensive Neuropsychological or Psycho-Educational assessment in order to determine the current impact of the disorder on the individual's ability to function in an academic setting.
- A clinical summary which: (a) indicates the substantial limitations to major life activities posed by the disability, (b) describes the extent to which these limitations would impact the academic context for which accommodations are being requested.
- Documentation should be no more than two years old.

5230 West U.S. Highway 98 Panama City, Florida 32401 850.769.1551 T 800.311.3685 www.gulfcoast.edu Please contact our office with any questions or concerns regarding. We thank you for your assistance and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Student Accessibility Resources Student Union East 60 Gulf Coast State College <u>sar@gulfcoast.edu</u> (P) 850-747-3243 (F) 850-767-8034