


Policy: Learning Disability Eligibility	
Issuing Department: Office of Disability Services	
Date last revised: March 2011	

PURPOSE

The Office of Disability Services (ODS) provides reasonable accommodations, academic adjustments and auxiliary aids to ensure that students and community members with disabilities have access to Western Oregon University and its programs. Purpose of this policy is to outline the requirements and documentation needed to receive services for learning disabilities.

POLICY

In order to receive accommodations, academic adjustments, and / or auxiliary aids at Western Oregon University a student must complete the *Application for Services* form and provide appropriate documentation of his / her learning disability. Once a student has submitted the information listed above, the Director of the Office of Disability Services will review the information, interact with and obtain additional information from the student as needed, and grant accommodations, academic adjustments and / or auxiliary aids based on the information presented. Accommodations, academic adjustments and auxiliary aids for students with learning disabilities are not designed to provide remediation, but instead are designed to accommodate the student's particular disability.

The term "learning disability" does not include students who have learning problems which are primarily the result of visual, hearing, or motor disabilities, mental retardation, emotional disturbance, or environmental, cultural, or economic disadvantage. "Learning disability" means a disorder in one of the basic psychological processes involved in understanding or in using language, spoken or written, which may manifest itself in an impaired ability to listen, speak, write, spell, reason, or do any mathematics calculations. The term includes such conditions as perceptual disabilities, brain injury, minimal brain dysfunction, dyslexia, and developmental aphasia (Taken from Federal Register 8-77 and EDAPA 08.02.15.1.i.j.).

PROCEDURES

Learning Disability Documentation:

- It must be remembered that no single evaluation instrument or procedure may be used to determine whether or not a person possesses a learning disability.
- Must meet requirement A or B:

- A. Documentation of previous services for a learning disability at a college or university, and testing within the past three years as an adult including: cognitive ability, achievement levels, and possible processing deficits (i.e., auditory memory, visual-spatial, attention, etc.); or
- B. If traditional age student (i.e. upon completion of high school planning to enter college), testing within the past three years (recent IEP acceptable with accompanying test data), among other things, showing a discrepancy between expected level of performance and actual performance level is acceptable (recent IEP is acceptable with accompanying test data). Students should identify the specific learning disability the school is using to determine IEP eligibility and an indication of the student's strengths and weaknesses and accommodations used.

Students with specific questions about eligibility under this section should work with the Office of Disability Services.

AUTHORITY

Western Oregon University is in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) 1990, ADA Amendments Act 2008 and Oregon Revised Statute 659.405.

RESPONSIBILITY

Office of Disability Services

Date of next review: March 2013

Alternate formats of this policy are available from the Office of Human Resources.