VERIFICATION OF ATTENTION DEFICIT HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER

Qualified professionals such as psychologists, neurophysiologists, and psychiatrists must make ADHD diagnoses and recommendations.

I. TESTING CRITERIA
Testing must be comprehensive. More than one assessment device should be administered for the purpose of diagnosis. The following test battery is suggested: WAISR; Woodcock-Johnson-R Achievement Test; Conners AD/HD Rating Scale; Copeland Symptom Checklist for Adult ADD. Other instruments that provide the same assessments are also accepted. Clinical interviews with the student and, when possible, immediate family or peers are required. Rating scales or standardized instruments must be used to obtain information from family, friends, employers, professional contacts or community members. In addition a complete developmental history, a full medical evaluation, psychological functioning and effectiveness of past and current medications prescribed for relief of AD/HD symptoms and behavioral interventions should be included.

II. DOCUMENTATION CRITERIA
Documentation must be current, within the past three years. In the case of an adult, an adult evaluation is required. For documentation older than three years, it should be an adult evaluation. The evaluation must include a clear diagnostic statement. Evidence of a substantial limitation to learning or other major life activity must be provided. A summary of the specific characteristics on which the diagnosis is established must be itemized to establish how the diagnosis impacts the particular individual. Individual “learning styles,” “learning differences,” “academic problems” and “test difficulty or anxiety,” in and of themselves, do not constitute a disability. Provision of reasonable accommodations and services for postsecondary education is based on assessment of the impact of the disability on academic performance at this time. Therefore, accommodation planning requires recent and appropriate documentation.

III. PROFESSIONAL CRITERIA REQUIREMENTS
Professionals conducting assessment and rendering diagnoses of specific attention deficit disorders must be qualified to do so. Experience in working with an adult population is essential. Diagnostic reports must include the names, titles, and professional credentials of the evaluator(s) as well as the date(s) of testing. All reports should be on letterhead, typed, dated, and signed.