

# EXPLORING RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Karen Madden, Ph.D.

Director, Academic Support Services

Johnson State College

[karen.madden@jsc.edu](mailto:karen.madden@jsc.edu)

# Differences Between High School and College

## High School: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

- Ensures that all children with disabilities have available to them a free/appropriate public education
- School district responsible for identifying and evaluating children

# Differences Between High School and College

## College: Americans with Disabilities Act

- Student must self-identify
- Student has responsibility for advocacy, negotiating, accommodation plan
- Protects all persons with disabilities from discrimination in educational setting

# Student Support Services

- Student self-identifies
- Student provides current documentation
- Student meets with Learning Specialist/Disability Coordinator
- Learning Specialist/Disability Coordinator develops accommodation plan
- Student is mainstreamed in all courses with accommodations

# Federal Laws and Accommodations at the College Level

- Definition of disability same as Section 504
- Protects all persons with disability from discrimination
- Eliminates barriers that prevent students from full participation
- Requires that schools not discriminate based on student's disability

# Documentation Requirements

All documentation must be:

- Current
- On professional letterhead
- Typed
- Dated
- Signed off by appropriate professional qualified to make the disability determination

# Documentation Requirements

## Students with ADD/ADHD

- Verification from a psychologist, psychiatrist, school psychologist, or special educator
- Must include
  - Specific diagnosis
  - Functional limitations
  - Recommended accommodations

# Documentation Requirements

## Students with psychological disabilities

- Verification from an appropriate practitioner
- Documentation must include:
  - Specific diagnosis listed in DSM IV
  - Information that details interference with major life activity/ recommended accommodations



# Documentation Requirements

## Students with Learning Disabilities

- Verification from appropriate practitioner qualified to work with adolescents/adults
- Documentation must include:
  - Summary of diagnostic interview/specific diagnosis
  - Neuro-psychological or psycho-educational test results
  - Clinical summary regarding accommodations

Examples of tests:

Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale

Woodcock Johnson Psycho-educational Battery

Kaufman Adolescent/Adult Intelligence Test

Stanford-Binet Intelligence Scale

Scholastic Abilities Test for Adults

Stanford Test of Academic Skills

Wechsler Individual Achievement Test

# Documentation Requirements

## Students with Physical Disabilities

- Verification from appropriate professional
- Formal diagnosis
- Functional limitations
- Reasonable accommodations