Dear Parents,

The Disability Support Service (DSS) at the University of Maryland welcomes your new college student to the campus. Any student who has a documented disability is invited to schedule a visit to register for DSS accommodations. Please call our office at 301.314.7682 to schedule an appointment to meet with a counselor.

Here is a little information about DSS to help you understand what we need and what we can provide.

- **Students must identify themselves to the DSS office if they want services by providing current documentation.** Detailed information is available at [http://counseling.umd.edu/DSS/registration.html](http://counseling.umd.edu/DSS/registration.html)
  - LD evaluation must be relevant to requests being made. It is in the individual’s best interest to submit evaluations that were completed within the last 5 years of registration with DSS; if older, we will, however, review your most recent documentation (for both LD and ADHD).
  - ADHD evaluation must be current and relevant given the understanding that the impact on learning may change over time. It is in the individual’s best interest to submit evaluations that were completed within the last 5 years of registration with DSS; we will review older documents for relevancy.
  - Documentation for Medical conditions should be within 6-12 months.
  - Documentation for Psychological disorders (such as depression, bipolar disorder, or generalized anxiety) should be within 6 to 12 months.
  - For detailed written information to download forms or guides at: [http://counseling.umd.edu/DSS](http://counseling.umd.edu/DSS)

- **Colleges and universities follow different guidelines than Kindergarten through 12th grade.** The documentation requirements may be different and the accommodations provided may vary as well.
  - Helpful information at [http://www.ed.gov/print/about/offices/list/ocr/transition.html](http://www.ed.gov/print/about/offices/list/ocr/transition.html)

- The best documentation contains a clear diagnostic statement identifying the presence of a disability, academic strengths and weaknesses (when appropriate), the impact of the disability on the individual in an educational setting and suggested reasonable accommodations and services.

- We require all documentation be prepared by a qualified professional (e.g., a licensed psychologist, neuropsychologist, psychiatrist, physician, audiologist, orthopedist, etc) who is not a relative or friend of the student or student’s family.

*LEARNING DISABILITIES (LD) & ATTENTION DEFICIT HYPERACTIVE DISORDERS (ADHD)*

Required documentation: A neuropsychological or psycho-educational assessment should validate the need for services, based on the individual's current level of functioning in the educational setting. It must be relevant to current requests. A school plan, such as an individualized education plan (IEP) or a 504 plan will be reviewed for relevancy, but may not be sufficient documentation.

**TYPES OF ACCOMMODATIONS AND SERVICES THAT ARE AVAILABLE**

- Testing (Exam) Services
- Note-Taking
- Reading Services
- Priority Registration
- E-texts, Books on CD, Enlarged Print
- Access to building, classrooms
- Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services
- Para-Transit Services
- Interpreting services (ASL, PSE, Cued Speech)
- Adapted Housing
- Oral, and Tactile-Low Vision interpreters)
- Assistance in Campus Libraries
- Transcription services & Assistive Listening Devices (ALD’s)
- Advocacy Support
- Adaptive Technology (AT)