

Guidelines for Documentation of Speech Impairments

Students who are seeking support services from NWFSC's Accommodations Resource Center on the basis of a diagnosed speech impairment are required to submit documentation to verify eligibility under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the ADA as amended in 2008. The professional providing the diagnosis must be qualified to do so. Protection under Section 504 and ADA is based upon documentation of a disability that **currently substantially limits** some major life activity such as learning.

The following guidelines are provided in the interest of assuring that documentation is appropriate to verify eligibility and support requests for reasonable accommodations, academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids on the basis of a speech impairment. The Coordinator for the Accommodations Resource Center is available to consult with diagnosticians regarding any of these guidelines.

The report needs to be typed in English on Letterhead, signed, and dated. A doctor's prescription pad note or a school plan such as Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) or 504 plan is not sufficient documentation by itself but may be included and used as part of a more comprehensive evaluative report.

The documentation must be current (within the past three years), and must include:

- The specific disabling condition which causes the disability.
- Date of diagnosis must be included.
- Whether the condition is temporary or permanent, and if it is stable or progressive.
- A description of the functional limitation(s) caused by the disability.

Appropriate **reasonable accommodations** and services are individually determined by the Accommodations Resource Center in consultation with the student on the basis of information in the documentation provided.

All documentation is confidential and should be submitted to:

Coordinator, Accommodations Resource Center
Northwest Florida State College
100 College Boulevard
Student Life Center, Bldg. 410 Rm 109
Niceville FL 32578
(Telephone and TDD: 850-729-6079)
(Fax: 850-729-6893)
Florida Relay Service:
800-955-8770