

DOCUMENTATION GUIDELINES FOR PSYCHIATRIC DISABILITIES

In order to receive academic accommodations due to a psychiatric disability, students must have proper and up-to-date documentation on file at the Registry for Students with Disabilities.

Psychiatric disabilities include a range of conditions characterized by emotional, and/or behavioral dysfunctions. Diagnoses are provided in the DSM-IV TR; however, not all conditions listed are considered disabilities and necessitate reasonable accommodations under the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act.)

Documentation must be recent (within 6 months) of the date it is submitted and written by a qualified clinician (psychologist/psychiatrist or social worker.) It must include:

- ✓ The diagnosis;
- ✓ The current functional limitations of the student in an academic environment and across domains;
- ✓ The impact of the disability on a major life activity (including learning;)
- ✓ A rationale for each requested accommodation.

Test anxiety alone is NOT a sufficient diagnosis to support accommodations.

An IEP or a 504 plan is INSUFFICIENT documentation of any disability.

Documentation should be sent to:

LaDonna Bridges
Director of Academic Support
Center for Academic Support and Advising
Framingham State College
100 State Street, PO box 9101
Framingham, MA 01701-9101

This information is confidential and is not shared with faculty.

At the beginning of each semester students must check in with the Director of Academic Support to review the documentation and discuss accommodations.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please call Ms. LaDonna Bridges at 508-626-4906.