

Psychological Disorder Guidelines

All disability eligibility and accommodation decisions are made on a case-by-case basis.

Many different psychological disorders can interfere with cognitive, emotional, and social functioning and may negatively impact a student's ability to function in an academic environment. Some individuals experience significant disruptions in mood, thinking, and behavioral regulation that are secondary to a psychological disorder. The symptoms and associated impairment may be either chronic or episodic. Complete descriptions and diagnostic criteria for psychological disorders are available in the current version of the DSM or ICD. **Test anxiety by itself is not considered a psychological disorder.**

Specific documentation guidelines for psychological disorders include the following:

- General documentation guidelines must be addressed.
- Documentation should reflect data collected to **represent current functioning**; however, **more recent documentation may be required by a disability service provider on a case-by-case basis.**
- A diagnosis consistent with the most recent DSM/ICD.
- Description of **history, current symptoms, and severity** of the disorder.
- Additional descriptions of (1) the **expected progression, duration, and stability** of the condition and (2) **relevant side effects of medications** are strongly encouraged.
- Description of **current** functional limitations impacting academic performance resulting from the disorder.

These criteria are established by the University System of Georgia Board of Regents. If you have any questions, please contact Augusta University's Testing and Disability Services at (706) 737-1469. Thank you.