



**Psychological Disability Verification Form
To Be Completed By
Psychiatrist / Psychologist / or Diagnosing Physician**

The American with Disabilities Act (ADA) speaks to the accessibility and availability of higher education for all qualified persons. At Johnson State College, Academic Support Services has the responsibility of implementing the provision of the ADA for persons with **psychological disabilities**. A psychological disability is defined by the ADA as "...a...mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities. . ." In DSM-IV terms, this means a GAF (Global Assessment of Functioning) of 60 or less (scale of 1-100), usually with a history of emotional problems. **These are serious, ongoing conditions rather than temporary or situational difficulties.**

The Academic Support Services Program assists students with psychological disabilities by:

- a) certifying students with psychological disabilities, and
- b) arranging and overseeing the provision of reasonable accommodations for these students.

Academic Support Services (ASSP) does not perform evaluations for students with psychological disabilities. ASSP provides counseling by our personal counselor or may refer students to the JSC Counseling Center or to private clinicians.

The ADA prohibits discrimination against persons with disabilities and requires "reasonable accommodations" that can be made without "undue hardship" to an institution. With or without accommodations, students must meet the requirements of JSC: demonstrate academic achievement and abide by JSC policies.

CERTIFICATION

A student who believes she or he might qualify for certification as having a psychological disability should contact the Learning Specialist at ASSP to obtain disability verification forms. These forms are to be completed by licensed mental health professionals, and returned to the Learning Specialist, who will decide whether the student meets the requirements for certification, in consultation with our Personal Counselor. The certification process is confidential to the extent provided by law.

ACCOMMODATIONS

A student who has been certified with a psychological disability is responsible for meeting with the Learning Specialist each semester in order to arrange for reasonable accommodations for specific courses. Once reasonable accommodations have been decided upon, as supported by the documentation provided, the student gives written consent for the Learning Specialist to write a letter to appropriate faculty and/or staff members detailing the accommodations. The student is responsible for delivering the letter to the faculty/staff members, and for arranging implementation of the accommodations with them. In order to protect the student's privacy, no specific information about the nature of the student's disability is provided to faculty/staff members.

Most students who utilize accommodations and other recommended services on campus make satisfactory progress at JSC. The Learning Specialist will work with the student, faculty, and/or staff

member to facilitate the process if any problems arise. If a faculty/staff member refuses to provide accommodations, the student may use the grievance process detailed in the student handbook.

Global Assessment of Functioning (GAF) Scale from DSM IV TR

Consider psychological, social and occupational functioning on a hypothetical continuum of mental health-illness. Do not include impairment in functioning due to physical (or environmental) limitations.

Eligibility requirements for support services for students with Psychological Disabilities:

1. Student provides verification for diagnosis and severity.
2. Student is assessed as having a functional limitation in the educational setting. (Psychological disabilities prevents student from equal access to classes, activities, or services offered by JSC to non-disabled students unless specific support services or accommodations are provided.)

Please provide the following information about _____
(Student's name)

Student's Date of Birth _____ Student's Social Security Number _____

I _____ give permission for the release of information to
Johnson State College

Signature of student

1. DSM Diagnosis: _____
2. Level of Severity: (circle one) **Mild** **Moderate** **Severe**
Global Assessment of Functioning Scale score (see attached): _____

3. Date of Diagnosis: _____
Length and type of treatment: _____

Last contact with student: _____

4. Describe symptoms which meet the criteria for this diagnosis with approximate date of onset:

5. Has this student ever received hospitalization/residential treatment for psychiatric disorder? If so, please give relevant institutional names and dates: _____

6. Describe this student's functional limitation in an educational setting: _____

7. Have you any recommendations to make regarding effective academic accommodation to equalize this student's educational opportunities at the post-secondary level? (Describe services/accommodation, classroom or study activities, or College requirements.)_____

8. Provide a medication history related to this disability. _____

9. Is this student currently on medication? Yes _____ No _____

Medication: _____ Dosage: _____

Will treatment (medication/therapy) be required locally? Yes _____ No _____

Have such arrangements been made? Yes _____ No _____

Describe: _____

10. Does this student continue to need educational services or accommodations when utilizing recommended treatment? _____

11. In addition to the diagnostic report, please attach other information relevant to this student's social and academic adjustment at Johnson State College. _____

Signature of diagnostic practitioner

Date

Type of License _____ State of License and No. _____

Print name and title: _____

Telephone: _____

Address: _____

Please Return This Form and Supporting Materials To:

The Learning Specialist
Academic Support Services
Johnson State College
337 College Hill
Johnson, VT 05656

Telephone: 802-635-1259

TTY: 802-635-1456

FAX: 802-635-1454

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