

## Autism Spectrum Disorders Documentation Guidelines

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

Autism Spectrum Disorders are characterized by impairment in several areas of development including social communication and social interaction across contexts, and the presence of restricted, repetitive patterns of behavior, interests or activities.

Specific documentation guidelines for Autism Spectrum Disorder include the following:

- General documentation guidelines are addressed.
- Documentation should reflect data collected **within the past three years** at the time of request for services.
- A diagnosis consistent with the most recent DSM/ICD.
- Assessment of the following diagnostic criteria **is required** and evaluation results should include:
  - Developmental history that includes **evidence of Autism Spectrum Disorder symptoms in early childhood**.
  - Documentation of **current** qualitative impairment in social interaction and social communication **and** their level of severity. A standardized assessment approach is encouraged (e.g. Autism Diagnostic Observation System; Autism Diagnostic Interview-Revised; Social Communications Questionnaire).
  - Documentation of **current** restricted, repetitive patterns of behavior, interests, and activities **and** their level of severity.
  - Assessment of broad cognitive ability using standardized assessment measures with **age-appropriate norms** (e.g., WAIS-IV, DAS, RIAS, C-TONI).
- Documentation of **current** functional impact or limitation of the disability on learning or other major life activities **and** how it impacts the individual in the learning environment. This may be in the form of a comprehensive psychoeducational evaluation, school records, and/or other relevant records.

***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.***