

DSPS Disability Definitions

Chancellor's Office, California Community Colleges—Implementing Guidelines for Title 5 Regulations—2019

SECTION 56032. PHYSICAL DISABILITY. Physical disability is defined as a limitation in locomotion or motor functions. These limitations are the result of specific impacts to the body's muscular-skeletal or nervous systems, and limit the student's ability to access the educational process.

SECTION 56034. DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING. (DHH) Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) is defined as a total or partial loss of hearing function that limits the student's ability to access the educational process.

SECTION 56035. BLIND AND LOW VISION. Blindness and low vision is defined as a level of vision that limits the student's ability to access the educational process.

SECTION 56036. LEARNING DISABILITY. (LD) Learning disability (LD) is defined as a persistent condition of presumed neurological dysfunction which may exist with other disabling conditions. The dysfunction is not explained by lack of educational opportunity, lack of proficiency in the language of instruction, or other non-neurological factors, and this dysfunction limits the student's ability to access the educational process. To be categorized as a student with a learning disability, a student must meet the following criteria through psycho-educational assessment verified by a qualified specialist certified to assess learning disabilities:

- (a) Average to above-average intellectual ability; and
- (b) Statistically significant processing deficit(s); and/or
- (c) Statistically significant aptitude-achievement discrepancies.

SECTION 56037. ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY. (ABI) Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) is defined as a deficit in brain functioning which results in a total or partial loss of cognitive, communicative, motor, psycho-social and/or sensory-perceptual abilities, and limits the student's ability to access the educational process.

SECTION 56038. ATTENTION DEFICIT HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER. (ADHD) Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder is defined as a neurodevelopmental disorder that is a persistent deficit in attention and/or hyperactive and impulsive behavior that limits the student's ability to access the educational process.

SECTION 56039. INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY. (ID) Intellectual disability (ID) is defined as significant limitations both in intellectual functioning and in adaptive behavior that affect and limit the student's ability to access the educational process. An individual may have an intellectual disability when:

- (1) the person's functioning level is below average intellectual ability; and
- (2) the person has significant limitations in adaptive skill areas as expressed in conceptual, social, academic and practical skills in independent living and employment; and,
- (3) the disability originated before the age of 18.

SECTION 56040. AUTISM SPECTRUM. Autism Spectrum disorders are defined as neurodevelopmental disorders described as persistent deficits which limit the student's ability to access the educational process. Symptoms must have been present in the early developmental period, and cause limitations in social, academic, occupational, or other important areas of current functioning.

SECTION 56042. MENTAL HEALTH DISABILITY. Mental Health disability is defined as a persistent psychological or psychiatric disability, or emotional or mental illness that limits the student's ability to access the educational process. For purposes of this subchapter, conditions that are not described and/or excluded in the American Psychiatric Association Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM) or the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) are not covered in this category.

SECTION 56044. OTHER HEALTH CONDITIONS AND DISABILITIES. This category includes all students with disabilities, as defined in Section 56002, with other health conditions, and/or disabilities that affect a major life activity, which are otherwise not defined in Sections 56032-56042, but which limit the student's ability to access the educational process.

This form may be returned by the student, by email to: Grossmont.ARC@gcccd.edu or fax to: 619-644-7980.

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