

ATTENTION DEFICIT / HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER (ADHD)

ADHD is a condition characterized by a persistent tendency for inattention and/or hyperactivity-impulsivity that interferes with academic, social, and/or occupational functioning. Students with ADHD often have difficulties with attention span, impulse control, distractibility, and forgetfulness. Some individuals exhibit outward manifestations of hyperactivity, e.g., fidgetiness, impulsive interruptions, excessive talking, or even difficulty waiting their turn.

There are three types of ADHD:

- Inattentive
- Hyperactive/Impulsive
- Combined type

ACCESSIBILITY

Students with ADHD may be affected academically in various ways. They may have difficulty with time management and organization. Completing projects or assignments, meeting due dates, and prioritizing assignments may be challenging. Students with ADHD may become bored easily and may procrastinate.

REGISTERING WITH STUDENT ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES (SAS)

To be eligible for academic accommodations at FAU, a student must first be accepted to the University and then apply for services with SAS. **There are two steps to apply for services:**

1. Register with SAS by completing an Application for Academic Accommodations. Applications can be found at <https://clockwork.fau.edu/ClockWork/user/intake/default.aspx>.
2. Provide appropriate documentation. Following are documentation requirements.

** Documentation on prescription pad is not accepted. IEPs/504 plans are not acceptable as documentation. Documentation requirements are firm.*

Acceptable forms of documentation:

- A complete psychological, psychoeducational, or neuropsychological evaluation report from a **licensed psychologist**. *The evaluation must include two types of assessments:*

1. **A standardized individual intelligence test**, e.g. Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale. *The Reynolds Intellectual Assessment Scales and the Kaufman Brief Intelligence Test are not accepted.*

2. **A standardized individual achievement test**, e.g. Woodcock-Johnson Tests of Achievement.

Other acceptable forms of documentation:

- A detailed letter from a licensed psychologist or psychiatrist. *Documentation from a medical doctor is not accepted.*
- A standardized test of attention, e.g., Continuous Performance Test, Test of Variable Attention.

Documentation requirements:

- Documentation must be on official letterhead, signed and dated by the clinician, along with their credentials. Attach their business card.
 - Include a specific DSM-5 diagnosis with test scores. It must clearly state the anticipated effects of the functional limitations within the academic setting and suggestions for accommodating the student.
 - There must be a direct link established between the suggested accommodations and the functional limitations of the condition.
 - The evaluation must have been conducted within the last five years, if children's norms were used. If adult norms were used the evaluation is acceptable for an unlimited period of time, provided the above requirements are met. SAS reserves the right to make modification to this time frame.
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DETERMINING ACCOMMODATIONS

Once the application and documentation are submitted, they will be reviewed by SAS. *Incomplete applications are not accepted.* The student will be notified if any documentation is missing and will be asked to submit additional documentation to meet the requirements. *The cost for obtaining appropriate documentation is the student's responsibility.*

It may take one to two weeks for the Application for Academic Accommodations to be processed, even with appropriate documentation. If the documentation submitted is inadequate, the processing time will increase.

Once the documentation requirements are met and the application is complete, the student will meet with an SAS consultant for a collaborative interview. During the interview, the student will be asked to provide information about his/her disability experience, barriers to learning, and effective / ineffective prior accommodations. Appropriate accommodations are then determined based on an interactive process between the student and the SAS consultant.

The student may be eligible for one or more of the following accommodations:

- Notetaking assistance
- Audio recording of lectures
- Exam adaptations, e.g., extended time to take exams, distraction reduced setting
- Time management and study skills training

***Florida Atlantic University does not provide a housing accommodation based solely on a diagnosis of ADHD.**

Accommodations are drafted into an official letter, an Academic Accommodation Agreement (AAA). The AAA is submitted by the student to each professor every semester, officially informing the professors of the approved accommodations. Professors then confirm the accommodations, thereby agreeing to provide them to the student. Once the accommodations are confirmed, the student can use them.

Accommodations are necessary to ensure complete access to, and full participation in, the educational process. Academic standards cannot be lowered nor can the essential nature of the course or degree requirements be altered.



Division of Student Affairs
Florida Atlantic University

Accommodating Students with ADHD

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www.fau.edu/sas

*Alternate format is available upon request.