

# DISABILITY SERVICES FACT SHEET PROVIDER/EVALUATOR QUALIFICATIONS

## WHO IS QUALIFIED TO PROVIDE INFORMATION REGARDING A STUDENT'S DISABILITY?

- Professionals conducting assessments, rendering diagnoses of specific disabilities and making recommendations for appropriate accommodations must be qualified to do so.
- Comprehensive training with regard to the specific disability being addressed and direct experience with an adolescent and/or adult population are essential.
- Providers/evaluators must be impartial individuals who are not family members of the student.
- The name, title and professional credentials of the provider/evaluator, including information about license or certification (i.e., licensed psychologist), the area of specialization, employment and state/province in which the individual practices should be clearly stated in the documentation.
- The following guidelines related to provider/evaluator qualifications for the evaluation of specific conditions is offered:

Cognitive Disabilities – neurologists; neuropsychologists; licensed, clinical, rehabilitation and strategy development and remediation; relevantly trained clinical psychologists

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) – psychologists; neuropsychologists; psychiatrists; neuropsychiatrists; other relevantly trained medical doctors, clinical social workers, licensed counselors and psychiatric nurse practitioners

Learning Disabilities – clinical or educational psychologists; licensed school psychologists; neuropsychologists; learning disabilities specialists

Psychiatric Disorders – licensed clinical psychologists; licensed clinical social workers; psychiatrists; neuropsychologists; neuropsychiatrists; other relevantly trained medical doctors and psychiatric nurse practitioners

Visual Impairments – ophthalmologists; optometrists may provide information regarding the measurement of visual acuity as well as tracking and fusion difficulties

Deaf or Hard of Hearing – physicians; otorhinolaryngologists; otologists; audiologists

Medical and/or Chronic Health Conditions – physicians; neurologists; other medical specialist with experience and expertise in the area for which accommodations are being requested