

Wesleyan School
Student Academic Accommodation Programs Policy

The following resources for academic support are available to all Wesleyan students:

Office Hours, Writing Lab and Math Lab (MS, HS levels only), ARC Office Hours on Tuesday and Thursday mornings (HS only), and laptop computers

In addition, accommodations/modifications will be available to Wesleyan students who have submitted required documentation of learning disabilities that meet the following criteria:

- A complete psychoeducational evaluation completed by a licensed psychologist or certified school psychologist.
- The evaluation must be current. (Diagnosed or reconfirmed within 5 academic years.) For Learning Disability and ADHD diagnoses, an extension of time may be offered in the interest of financial stewardship. This extension must be directed and approved by the division counselor in order to ensure that currency standards will still be met for application for accommodations on standardized tests when the student is in high school.
- The evaluation must include BOTH Achievement AND IQ/Aptitude Test Data completely listed within the evaluation.
- The evaluation must name a specific DSM (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders) diagnosis.
 - Please note: Because emotional and mood disorders (such as anxiety and depression) are diagnoses that can be remediated through avenues such as therapy/counseling, these diagnoses will require annual renewals comprised of two elements. The first element should include documentation from the doctor/psychologist describing the current impact of the student's disability as it affects their academic performance, and should document the need for ongoing accommodations. The second element should include documentation of therapeutic efforts provided to address the student's needs.
- The evaluation must name recommendations for services/accommodations for the classroom.

The cost of a full educational psychological evaluation is typically between \$2000 and \$3500. Please note that your medical insurance policy may provide some coverage of these expenses if you choose someone from their network. If you do choose someone through your insurance, please make sure they have a copy of our Wesleyan Accommodation Plan policy, to ensure that your child receives the required testing. If you receive financial aid from Wesleyan School, you may be eligible for a financial aid discount through specific psychologists. Please contact Billy Coxhead in the Business Office if you would like to pursue a financial aid discounted price.

Wesleyan will offer accommodations within the classroom and reserves the right to adjust accommodations based on the needs of our students and school. Accommodations are only offered if they are consistent with specific recommendations included in the student's psychoeducational evaluation. The following are the approved accommodations at Wesleyan School:

Physical Accommodations

- Preferential Seating (near teacher, between well-focused students, away from distractions i.e. windows, hallways, etc.).
- Extra seat or table space for expanding work area when possible.

Instructional Accommodations

- Extended time (not to exceed 50% of the original time) on timed quizzes, tests, and exams. (Refer to supplemental Extended Time Policy and Procedures for details).
- Technological learning aids to include:
 - laptop computers for typing notes and the essay portions of tests and exams (Refer to supplemental Typing Policy and Procedures for details).
 - audiobooks for homework and when instructed by the teacher.
 - speech to text and text to speech software for homework only.
- Permission to receive notes as a supplemental source of information to a student's own notetaking. The source of notes can be teacher or peer notes and is determined by the teacher of the course. These notes cannot be used on tests and quizzes. (Refer to supplemental Note Taking Assistance Policy and Procedures for details).
- No penalties will be given for spelling errors on in-class writing assignments, essays, tests, exams, and quizzes. Assignments will be graded on content. When grading content, the teacher should be able to identify/sound out the word as it is written. If the teacher cannot, the student will be asked to identify the word. If the student cannot identify the word, it will be considered incorrect.

- This is only granted to K-12 students who have been diagnosed (by a licensed/school psychologist) with a reading disorder/dyslexia, written expression disorder, or a phonological processing disability, and whose written psychoeducational report recommends a spelling accommodation.
 - Spelling errors noted in MCL courses may receive a deduction of a maximum of five percent.
- Those students in the high school who have a diagnosis of a Specific Learning Disorder in Reading, Dyslexia, or a Reading Disorder, in which the disorder specifically impairs the ability to learn language, may choose to take their third high school year of a foreign language for a pass/fail credit instead of a letter grade. This accommodation is not available to students enrolled in an Honors or AP Language course. This accommodation will only be offered if:
 - The psychoeducational evaluation on file specifically documents that the diagnosed reading disorder inhibits the ability to learn a foreign language.
 - The recommendation for an adjusted foreign language requirement is specified in the psychoeducational evaluation on file.

Behavioral Accommodations

- Cueing procedures (i.e. nodding to student, gently placing hand on student's shoulder) privately agreed upon with the student to help maintain focus.
- Additional appropriate movement throughout the classroom (ie, brain break) when possible.