

# What are the signs that students may have learning disabilities?

Visual / Reading

Oral Language / Expression

Disability with Math

Language and Writing

Auditory and Language

1. Mental Health (physical , Attention)

2. Other Mental Health Challenges

## How does learning disability testing benefit students?

Learn personal strengths and weaknesses

Determine effective strategies for learning

Provides ideas to guide tutors in supporting learning

Obtain documentation:

- Ability to formally request accommodations for any state testing (e.g. LSAT, MSAT, NCLEX, etc)

- Ability to formally request accommodations at the workplace or at any other post-secondary institution

## **Signs that a student may have Visual processing or Reading disabilities:**

- **Confusion of similar words, difficulty using phonics, problems reading multi-syllable words**
- **Difficulty finding important points or main ideas**
- **Slow reading rate and/or difficulty adjusting speed to the nature of the reading task**
- **Difficulty with comprehension and retention of material that is read, but not with materials presented orally**



## **Signs that a student may have Expressive language or Writing disabilities:**

- **Difficulty with sentence structure, poor grammar, omitted words**
- **Frequent spelling errors, inconsistent spelling, letter reversals**
- **Difficulty copying from the chalkboard**
- **Poorly formed handwriting might print instead of using script writing with an inconsistent slant has difficulty with certain letters  
spaces words unevenly**
- **Compositions lacking organization and development of ideas**





## **Signs of Auditory Processing or Language Processing disabilities:**

- **Difficulty paying attention when spoken to**
- **Difficulty listening to a lecture and taking notes at the same time**
- **Easily distracted by background noise or visual stimulation**
- **Might appear to be hurried in one-to-one meetings**
- **Inconsistent concentration**



## **Signs of Oral language or Expressive language disabilities:**

- **Difficulty expressing ideas orally which the student seems to understand**
- **Difficulty describing events or stories in proper sequence**
- **Difficulty with grammar**
- **Using a similar-sounding word in place of the appropriate one**





## **Signs of Disabilities in math**

**(ex: Dyscalculia, Visual-Spatial Aspects of math):**

- **Difficulty memorizing basic facts**
- **Confusion or reversal of numbers, number sequences, or symbols**
- **Difficulty copying problems, aligning columns**
- **Difficulty reading or comprehending word problems**



## **Signs of Attention Deficits**

**Physical health challenges, and mental health challenges:**

- **Problems with reasoning and abstract concepts**
- **Exhibits an inability to stick to simple schedules repeatedly forget things loses or leaves possessions and generally seems "personally disorganized"**
- **Difficulty following directions**
- **Poor organization and time management**





## **Signs of students who are under the spectrum or maybe experiencing mental health challenges:**

- **Difficulty "reading" facial expressions, body language**
- **Problems interpreting subtle messages, such as sarcasm or humor**
- **Seems disorganized in space: confuses up and down, right and left; gets lost in a building, is disoriented when a familiar environment is rearranged**
- **Seems disoriented in time: is often late to class, unusually early for appointments or unable to finish assignments in the standard time period**
- **Displays excessive anxiety, anger, or depression because of the inability to cope with school or social situations**

