LD QUICK GUIDE

A <u>learning disability</u> is a neurological disorder that results in the way a person's brain is wired. Individuals with learning disabilities are as intelligent or more intelligent than their peers. However, they have difficulty in writing, reading, spelling, reasoning, memory, and organizing information. A learning disability is permanent and cannot be cured or fixed. Nevertheless, many individuals with learning disabilities can succeed in college and become successful in their chosen careers.

POSSIBLE CHARACTERISTICS

Compromised attention span	Difficulty discriminating sounds/letters
Memory issues	Difficulty adjusting to change
Difficulty following directions	Delayed speech/vocabulary skills
Poor reading/writing skills	Difficulty understanding new concepts
Difficulties with hand-eye coordination	Inconsistent performance day to day
Disorganization	Difficulty with math skills

STRATEGIES

- 1. Encourage the use of Disability Services approved accommodations. If the student has not connected with Disability Services, assist the student with the referral.
- 2. Inform students about the available campus resources such as the Tutoring Center, the Writing Center, Success Services, the Math Developmental Center, Disability Services, the Counseling Centers, etc.
- 3. When referring a student to a resource, assist the student in making the initial contact.
- 4. Use as many multimodal methods as possible when giving information, to tap into the variety of learning styles (auditory, visual, kinesthetic).
- 5. Use more than one way to demonstrate or explain information.
- 6. Keep instructions brief and uncomplicated. If possible, give them a written handout, also repeat each instruction word-for-word.
- 7. Encourage questions and allow time for clarification of instruction and other essential information.
- 8. Use appropriate language and do not make assumptions about the student's abilities or disabilities.
- 9. If time permits, demonstrate what the student needs to do. For example, if a student needs to withdraw from a course, demonstrate what he/she will need to do to drop a class.
- 10. Encourage students to return if they have additional questions. Provide your contact information.