

## **Accommodations for Disabilities**

Thomas Jefferson University (TJU) recognizes and respects the implications that Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act has on those students with certain specific learning disabilities who seek appropriate testing accommodations. To assure appropriate response, TJU requires that the disability be properly disclosed at the onset of the student's education at Jefferson and that the disability be well documented. Further requirements are as follows:

1. Any student seeking accommodations for a disability must make this request in writing before the start of classes. The written request should be submitted to the Office of the Dean, Jefferson College of Graduate Studies. The request should state the diagnosis, the need for a specific type of accommodation or auxiliary aid and why the particular type of accommodation is appropriate. Written documentation must accompany the student's request. Requests submitted after the beginning of classes may not be considered.
2. Any student with a learning disability and seeking testing accommodations\* must submit appropriate documentation. For learning disabilities, this documentation must include I.Q. test and achievement test scores that are a) converted to the norm for adult subjects, including raw scores; b) have been administered by a certified or licensed practitioner; c) have been administered and reported within the last three years. Jefferson reserves the right to additionally examine those students claiming a learning disability to further corroborate the diagnosis. The diagnosis of a disability does not necessarily imply that accommodations are required or appropriate.
3. TJU requires that any supplied documentation include a specific medical and/or psychological diagnosis to warrant the consideration of accommodations.
4. Any grant of reasonable accommodations pursuant to Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act will relate specifically to the diagnosed disability and will not necessarily affect other aspects of the student's education at Jefferson. For example, the grant of additional time as a testing accommodation will not necessarily warrant the grant of additional time for performing clinical assignments. In no case will accommodations be made if, in the judgment of the faculty, the accommodation would compromise standards of clinical competence or fundamentally alter the academic program.

\* *Note:* The prior granting of accommodations for any other testing administration such as the SAT or MCAT does NOT necessarily mean that accommodations will be granted by TJU.