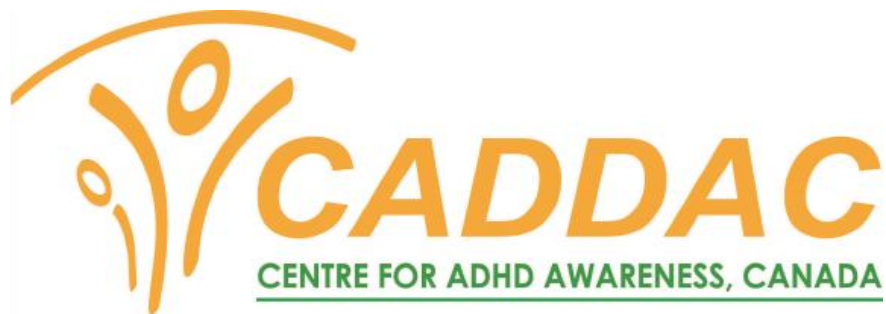


Understanding ADHD as a Disability in the Post-Secondary Environment

CADDAC

416-637-8584

www.caddac.ca



Is a national not-for-profit organization providing leadership in awareness, education and advocacy for ADHD organizations and individuals with ADHD across Canada

Approximately 4% or 150,000 young adult Canadians are impacted by ADHD symptoms often impairing their success in post-secondary education.

Recent success in ADHD Awareness and support has allowed more student's with ADHD to access post-secondary education allowing them to reach their academic and career potential.

Unfortunately ADHD as a disability and the resulting impairments continue to be inadequately understood by some post-secondary institutions.

This is resulting in some schools demanding that students undergo unnecessary and expensive testing to qualify for appropriate accommodations to assist with their disability.

Research has shown that these standardized tests do not accurately quantify the nature of impairments that characterize ADHD

When used exclusively these tests can unfairly bar students from qualifying for accommodations for their legitimate disability causing inequity in access to post-secondary education.

Learning accommodations for students with disabilities do not give these students an unfair advantage, but rather level the playing field, allowing them equal access to post-secondary education.

There are no agreed-upon national or provincial standards for assessment and documentation practices to assure access to accommodations and services in post-secondary education for students with ADHD.

This results in inconsistencies and discriminatory practices leaving colleges and universities open to legal challenge.

CADDAC agrees that detailed medical reporting by an ADHD medical expert should be required to meet Canadian government requirements.

This reporting should provide the post-secondary institution with the necessary information required to understand the student's unique impairments and need for specific accommodations.

This report should:

- ▶ Identify the permanent disability and list specific impairments
- ▶ Indicate how these impairments would negatively impact functioning of the student in the post-secondary academic setting
- ▶ Link requested accommodations to existing impairments of the student

CADDAC has produced a resource for ADHD medical professionals to assist them in developing a detailed report that would meet government requirements and provide the necessary information for post-secondary institutions.

- ▶ To access the complete [paper](#)
- ▶ To access the ADHD medical expert [Resource Toolkit](#)
- ▶ To access the [chart documenting the inconsistencies](#) across post-secondary schools

For additional information on ADHD

www.caddac.ca

www.adhdawareness.ca