

Welcome to CUNY, the nation's largest public urban university, which is deeply committed to equal access and educational opportunity for individuals with disabilities. Students with disabilities have a long and storied history of making vibrant contributions to all aspects of University life. Indeed, individuals with disabilities are not only counted among CUNY's best and brightest students, they also participate richly in the University's student life. Currently, the CUNY Coalition for Students with Disabilities continues in this leadership tradition, as its delegates from each campus help to shape CUNY policy and celebrate the rich contributions to University life of people with disabilities.

Each of CUNY's 19 campuses features an office of disability services that, with the support of the University's Office of Student Affairs, works individually and collectively to provide reasonable accommodations and support services to CUNY students with disabilities.

There are more than 9,000 students with disabilities currently enrolled at CUNY who have demonstrated the ability to meet the academic and technical standards of the colleges in which they are enrolled. These students with disabilities provide appropriate documentation of their disabilities to their college offices of disability services to verify and clarify their needs for reasonable accommodations.

The following represents a summary of the guidelines used by CUNY's disability services professionals as the necessary elements to assess the appropriateness of disability documentation for the purpose of verifying students' needs for reasonable accommodation. These guiding principles have been endorsed and represent the consensus of the CUNY's disability services professionals, who serve as the members of the CUNY Committee of Student Disability Issues (COSDI) and by the CUNY office of Student Affairs.

### **Diversity Statement**

The CUNY Office of Disability Services is invested in the success of all students within the CUNY system. The celebration of diversity is evident in CUNY's mission statement, "...the University will continue to maintain and expand its commitment to academic excellence and to the provision of equal access and opportunity for students, faculty and staff from all ethnic and racial groups and from both sexes."

CUNY is committed to providing access and opportunity to all students with disabilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the amendment, Section 508, of the Rehabilitation Act, and all other current legislation.

