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Cognitive Remediation
Assessment
Neurofeedback
Psychotherapy

Faculty, NYU Medical Center
& Albert Einstein College of Medicine

Extended Time Evaluation Requirements

The requirements of applying for extended time on standardized tests are demanding, and vary from one testing organization to another. It is your responsibility to know these requirements and gather the proper materials within the time constraints. Testing is central, but is not enough. Be advised that there is no guarantee that the testing results will turn out a certain way. When enough testing is done to determine the likelihood of getting accommodations, you can decide whether you want to continue and complete the report.

Please have school records, dating from grammar school through high school, sent directly to me. You will probably have to give the school(s) a written release to do this. Start this procedure as early as possible. Bring, or mail me, test reports and letters which document your learning problems in your past. Letters from doctors, teachers, school officials, even relatives and parents, attesting to your learning problems are helpful. My report will be much stronger and more likely to be successful if there is a documented history to your disability; we need to show that you are not just trying to get an extra advantage by getting extra time.

You need to appreciate the view that it is difficult and inconvenient for testing services to grant you extra time; it costs them extra money and time (to hire people to monitor you, rent extra space, etc.). Because of this, you need to make a very strong case. Part of your case involves documenting your history. The more historical documentation, the stronger your case is. The other very important part of your case involves the testing. The requirement is that the testing must be current, within the last several years (this varies by organization).

Sometimes you are asked to write a personal statement, telling your story about your learning problems throughout your life; this should be about 1 page, and e-mailed to me. If you have little or no formal proof about your learning difficulties growing up, you need to explain why you did not get accommodations. How is it you were not identified as being learning disabled as a child? What struggles did you go through? Did you get informal accommodations from teachers (like extra time on tests), or did someone help you a lot with homework (parent, tutor, grandma)? This narrative should be e mailed to me at: nurosvcs@aol.com. Include your medical and developmental (childhood) history, which is also required.

All of the above is required in the report asking for extended time. The most efficient way to deal with these essential elements is by handling them as I have recommended. Otherwise I will have to spend billable time interviewing you and/or your parents with respect to completing the history of the case.

Please note that these reports take time to write, as they often end up being over 15 pages long. Do not expect the report to be done shortly after submitting the final materials; a report without complications will take a minimum of a week to write. A deposit of \$500 is necessary to schedule the first appointment.

It is assumed that the above noted terms are understood and agreed upon by you.

James Lawrence Thomas, PhD
Neuropsychologist

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