If you suspect that you have a learning disability...

Learning disability is a generic term that refers to a heterogeneous group of disorders manifested by significant difficulties in acquisition and use of listening, speaking, reading, writing, reasoning or mathematical abilities, or of social skills. These disorders are intrinsic to the individual and presumed to be due to central nervous system dysfunction. Even though a learning disability may occur concomitantly with other handicapping conditions (e.g., sensory impairment, mental retardation, social and emotional disturbance), with socio-environmental influences (e.g., cultural differences, insufficient or inappropriate instruction, psychogenic factors [mental disorders]), and especially attention deficit disorder—all of which may cause learning problems—a learning disability is not the direct result of those conditions or influences.

Learning disabilities can be lifelong conditions that, in some cases, affect many parts of a person’s life: school or work, daily routines, family life and sometimes even friendships and recreation. In some people, many overlapping learning disabilities may be apparent. Other people may have a single, isolated learning problem that has little impact on other areas of their lives.

What assistance is available at Carnegie Mellon?

Resources for Students with Disabilities
Carnegie Mellon takes great efforts to provide physical and programmatic campus access to everyone. Individuals with documented disabilities may be eligible to receive services/accommodations from Carnegie Mellon’s Equal Opportunity Services office (EOS).

To access services/accommodations, individuals must first refer themselves to the EOS office and provide adequate documentation of the disability. The first step in this process is to complete and return the Voluntary Self Identification Form attached to this document. Please note the EOS does not initiate accommodations without a specific written request from an individual with a disability.
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Below are samples of some common reasonable accommodations that may be provided to qualified individuals with disabilities:

- Alternative text format
- Additional class notes
- Extended time—this can be for in-class assignments and exams
- Alternative testing arrangements?EOS will work with instructors to provide proctoring of exams and tests
- Reduced-distraction testing environment
- Alternative classroom examinations
- Enlarging of materials
- Use of dictionaries and calculators for in-class assignments and tests
- Barrier removal and access
- Voice recognition software

Please note that accommodations are determined on a case-by-case basis.

For more information on services to students with disabilities contact:

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or

EOS@andrew.cmu.edu
or http://hr.web.cmu.edu/eos.html