Reasonable Accommodation in Education

Having any kind of disability does not necessarily mean that the person cannot be educated or gainfully employed. What prevents them from accessing education or employment are the physical and social barriers which place them at a disadvantage when performing the required tasks. Reasonable accommodation allows a person with a disability to make certain reasonable requests for specific structures to be put into place, which will enable them to perform and function at the same level as non-disabled students or employees.

For persons with psychosocial or intellectual disabilities, the following list of reasonable accommodations may be applicable:

- Quiet environment – limiting distractions due to sound sensitivity
- Assignments conveyed via email or in writing - to refer back to where memory is affected
- Allow for the recording of lectures - to refer back to where memory is affected
- Avoid long sentences for assignment and exam paper instructions - to ensure that information is not lost due to concentration and interpretation of content
- Exam venue to be separate from group of students and other distractions - to eliminate anxiety and loss of concentration
- Adapt/reschedule assignment schedules and exams when relapses occur or during recovery
- Allow for absence from classes for monthly and / or weekly follow-up visits to the clinic or treating practitioner and / or the collection of medication

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