**Guidelines for Documentation UPDATE
for Learning Disabilities**

If the disability verification documentation provided does not meet Rhode Island College *Guidelines for Documentation of Learning Disorders*, students have the option to submit a documentation update, rather than a new neuropsychological evaluation.

A documentation update is a report by a qualified professional that includes a summary of the original disability documentation findings as well as additional evaluation data necessary to establish the student's current condition and the appropriateness of the requested accommodations.

A documentation update should include:

- A restatement of the diagnosis, including date(s) for all prior diagnoses and data that were used to establish the diagnoses.

- Evidence regarding the continued persistence of the diagnosis, including the following additional evaluation data:
    o Achievement measures that substantiate the ongoing impact of the disability on academic performance. The updated evaluation need not include a full battery of tests, but should include selected academic tests and subtests deemed appropriate to support the diagnosis. There should be an explanation of why each test was selected for the update, interpretation of the scores obtained, and a discussion of relevant error patterns based on the student's scores.
    o Additional assessment of cognitive functioning is necessary only if the existing documentation does not contain adequate and age-appropriate information to establish the disability status. An update of intellectual functioning is generally not necessary if the WAIS-III, or other comparable measure was previously used, given that intellectual functioning is typically stable in adulthood.

- Current functional limitations due to the disability, including information regarding the impact on academic performance.

- Observations of behavior gathered during the evaluation, such as affect, concentration, attentional fatigue, executive functioning, and fluency.

- History and types of accommodations received and used.

In conclusion, the extent of retesting required for a documentation update is student specific and depends on how closely the original disability verification documentation complies with the Rhode Island College *Guidelines for Documentation of Learning Disorders*.