

WE ARE ASPIKA FOUNDATION – PROGRAMS SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION (INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS)

To ensure that international students with special needs and accommodations are adequately supported when applying to programs at the We Are Aspika Foundation, it is crucial to gather specific documentation and follow recommended procedures. Here's a comprehensive list of the required documentation and steps:

Required Documentation:

- 1. Recent IEP or 504 Plan Documentation:**
 - Provide the most recent Individualized Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plan. These documents should be updated within the last four years and include details about accommodations provided during high school.
- 2. Psychoeducational Evaluation:**
 - A recent psychoeducational evaluation conducted within the last four years, offering detailed information about the student's cognitive and academic abilities to support the need for accommodations.
- 3. Medical Documentation:**
 - Any relevant medical documentation that supports the need for accommodations, such as reports on conditions that significantly impact learning or daily functioning.
- 4. Accommodation History:**
 - A detailed history of the accommodations the student has received during high school or previous educational settings, highlighting how these accommodations have benefitted them.
- 5. Personal Statement:**
 - A personal statement from the student explaining their disability, how it affects their learning, and the types of accommodations that have been helpful.
- 6. Financial Documentation:**
 - Proof of sufficient funds - scholarship awards.
- 7. Proof of English Proficiency:**
 - For non-native English speakers, submit scores from tests like TOEFL, IELTS, or Duolingo English Test. Requirements vary by institution but are generally necessary to demonstrate the ability to succeed in an English-speaking academic environment.
- 8. Copy of Passport:**
 - A photocopy of the photo/data page of the student's current, valid passport.

Procedures:

- 1. Contact the We Are Aspika Team:**

- Before applying, students should reach out to the We Are Aspika Office to understand the specific documentation required and the accommodations available. This initial contact helps clarify any additional requirements.

2. **Visa and Immigration Requirements:**

- Students must obtain a student visa (typically F-1) to study in the USA. This involves receiving the Form I-20 from the institution and scheduling a visa interview at a U.S. embassy or consulate.

3. **Health Insurance:**

- International students must have health insurance coverage. Once accepted, they will be informed about the mandatory insurance regulations and options for enrollment.

Tips for Success:

- **Update Documentation Regularly:** Ensure that all evaluations and documentation are current, as institutions typically require recent evidence to grant accommodations.
- **Develop Self-Advocacy Skills:** Encourage students to develop skills to advocate for themselves. In postsecondary education, students are responsible for communicating their needs and accommodations to instructors.
- **Visit the We Are Aspika Offices:** During visits, have discussions with the personnel to assess the level of support and accommodations available.

By implementing a detailed application process that includes these documents and steps, the We Are Aspika Foundation can better support international students with special needs, ensuring they receive the necessary accommodations to succeed.