

## *Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD)*

Students enrolled at Bellarmine College Preparatory (BCP) must adhere to all the school requirements and policies of the semester and year-long course requirements, course sequence, honors/advancement eligibility, and 4-year graduation plan. All coursework meeting graduation requirements must be taken at Bellarmine. Parents of students with potentially limiting conditions, including learning disabilities, attention deficits, and visual, hearing, medical, physical, psychological, or mobility impairments, should contact the SSD Coordinator to review availability of supports for critical needs prior to considering the admissions process.

*What is BCP's policy regarding serving students with disabilities?*

Bellarmine's commitment to fairness and justice extends to providing academically qualified students with a disability an equal opportunity to access the school's programs and activities, with available and reasonable supports/adjustments. Access to these services is open to those who are eligible and register through the SSD Program.

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Prospective students with a diagnosed condition that can impair fair test-taking on the High School Placement Test (HSPT)

entrance exam, may be eligible for extended time or other reasonable adjustments on the HSPT. Full assessment documentation must be provided to the school's SSD Coordinator to determine eligibility and approval, **no later than** mid-December of the application year.

### **Available HSPT Testing Accommodations with approval by SSD Coordinator**

- Extended Time
- Preferential Seating
- Alternate Format, Answer Sheet, or accommodations for visually or hearing impaired students.
- Medical supports



*What specific types of services and accommodations are available for students with disabilities?*

Students are expected to develop proficiency in arranging accommodations with teachers as needed, encouraging self-advocacy.

### **SSD supports may include: Enrollment Assistance**

- ✚ HSPT Accommodations
- ✚ Orientation to Campus
- ✚ Advisement in Course Selection, Long-Term Strategic Planning

### **Accommodation Plans Developed for Qualified Students (based on professional testing\* and demonstrated need)**

- ✚ DSM or ICD diagnosis
- ✚ (Documentation policies apply)

### **Academic Supports available on campus (depending on eligibility)**

- ✚ Academic Resource Center (ARC)
- ✚ Teacher Office Hours
- ✚ Referrals for outside tutoring or study skills training
- ✚ Specialized advising for future course selections and strategic planning
- ✚ Teacher/student/parent consultation
- ✚ Individualized advising on academic study skills, organizational strategies

### **College Planning**

- ✚ Application assistance to secure accommodations for college entrance and AP exams - College Board, ACT – as eligible. College Board and ACT have the right to deny accommodations to any student, even those approved for Bellarmine.
- ✚ Transition support to college disability services post high school.
- ✚ Assist/consult with college guidance counselors in post-secondary planning.

## *How can a student arrange to receive services?*

Academic accommodations are provided after **\*appropriate documentation** is presented to the school, the individual's needs are reviewed, consideration of how the disability might interfere with the student's academic performance at Bellarmine, and identification of reasonable supports and adjustments. Testing for accommodations is not provided at Bellarmine. Students are referred to private psychologists or San Jose Unified School District as appropriate.

**\*A diagnosis of a condition must be accompanied by formal testing**, clearly demonstrating a student's individual profile of substantial limitations to substantiate a request. A diagnosis alone without formal assessment does not demonstrate a student's individual need for accommodations.

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Students at Bellarmine may also qualify for services if they are diagnosed with a qualifying condition while enrolled that impacts learning and success in school. Families should contact the SSD Coordinator to inquire about procedures and **\*documentation policies**:

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**Learning Specialist / SSD Coordinator**  
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## *What documentation does Bellarmine require for students who are seeking disability services?*

Students must submit **\*documentation** to verify eligibility for SSD services. Documentation consists of a current **psychoeducational evaluation** (LD and AD/HD recommended within 3 years) or evaluation every year accompanied by a written report of that evaluation (for medical, physical, or psychological conditions) that addresses specific symptoms and impact on academic performance and needs of the student, with clear diagnosis (DSM or ICD Codes).

- ✓ *Learning Disabilities*
- ✓ *Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (AD/HD)*
- ✓ *Physical*
- ✓ *Medical*
- ✓ *Vision/Hearing Impairment*
- ✓ *Psychological/Neurological*

Available standard accommodations at Bellarmine include:

- Extended Time for Testing (not for assignments)
- Assistive Technology for Reading (audiobooks) and Note-Taking (Recoding Device) - parent provided
- Preferential Seating
- Use of computer for Essay exams, note-taking, and in-class writing (diagnosed dysgraphia required)
- Use of a calculator for math calculations (diagnosed dyscalculia required)
- Modifications for Visually Impaired and Hearing Impaired Students
- Medical Conditions Support



**Bellarmino**  
College Preparatory

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