

Jessica Machado



Professional Summary

Experienced and dynamic higher education professional with over 10 years of expertise in disability services, student support, and advocacy. Proven track record of leading and managing accessibility programs that ensure compliance with ADA, Section 504, and other disability-related laws while fostering an inclusive, equitable environment. Skilled in strategic planning, program development, and team leadership, with a strong commitment to promoting academic success and social inclusion for students with disabilities. Adept at collaborating with faculty, staff, and campus leaders to implement effective accommodations and deliver training on best practices for accessibility. Passionate about advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion, and dedicated to advocating for students with disabilities.

Professional Experience

Senior Accessibility Associate, Disability Support Services

George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

October 2023 – Present

- Oversee the review of disability documentation and determine reasonable accommodations in compliance with ADA and Section 504 through implementation of the interactive process to ensure equitable support for students with diverse needs.
- Collaborate with faculty, staff, and administrators to address academic and course- and programmatic-related accommodations.
- Develop and deliver training to faculty, staff, and students on accessibility to promote awareness on a variety of disability issues.
- Apply social justice and disability advocacy principles in all aspects of service delivery, promoting a culture of inclusion and equity across campus.

Nationally Certified School Psychologist

Private Practice, Fairfax, VA

August 2012 – Present

- Facilitated social skills intervention groups for children and young adults with autism spectrum disorder.
- Conducted comprehensive psychological evaluations for clients seeking independent assessments.

Director, Disability Resources

University of Mary Washington, Fredericksburg, VA

September 2017 – February 2023

- Oversaw all operations of Disability Resources, supporting over 12% of total enrolled students, the highest percentage among VA public institutions of higher education.
- Reviewed and interpreted confidential medical and psychological evaluations to determine eligibility for services and accommodations.
- Developed department policies and procedures to enhance operational efficiency.
- Consulted and collaborated with faculty, staff, students, community partners, and stakeholders to meet accommodation needs and promote inclusivity.
- Interpreted, implemented, and consulted on university, state, and federal disability-related laws, policies, and procedures.
- Engaged in strategic planning with institutional stakeholders and leadership to promote accessibility and inclusivity.
- Supervised office staff and managed the office budget.
- Co-developed and co-taught Introduction to Disability Studies course with multi-disciplinary faculty.

Assistant Director / MASI Director, Disability Services

George Mason University, Fairfax, VA

July 2013 – September 2017

- Conducted intakes with prospective students with disabilities and determined appropriate accommodations in compliance with ADA, Rehabilitation Act, Fair Housing Act, and other relevant civil rights laws.
- Provided individual and group support services and counseling for autistic students.
- Delivered training and consultation to faculty, staff, students, and the local community to enhance knowledge and awareness regarding students with disabilities and promote campus accessibility.
- Developed the Mason Autism Support Initiative (MASI), a formal support program with research-based interventions for students with autism spectrum disorder, increasing student enrollment annually.
- Recruited, hired, and supervised staff.
- Designed and delivered university courses to support transition to and through college for students with autism, including peer mentor programs.

Psychologist

Fairfax County Public Schools, Alexandria, VA

August 2012 – June 2013

- Conducted comprehensive psychological evaluations to assess students' cognitive, personality, behavioral functioning, and educational needs.
- Wrote comprehensive psychological reports and held interpretive meetings with parents to discuss evaluation results.
- Served as chairperson for Local Screening Committee and Eligibility Committee meetings.

- Provided consultation and training on experiential and research-based practices for students with ADHD, learning disabilities, autism spectrum disorder, mental illness, and other disabilities.
- Consulted and collaborated with school administration, instructional staff, and parents regarding individual behavioral and academic needs.
- Conducted threat assessments, risk assessments, and provided counseling for general education and special education students.

Psychologist

Stockton Unified School District, Stockton, CA

November 2011 – June 2012

- Conducted comprehensive psycho-educational evaluations of elementary and high school students, including those with serious mental illness.
 - Supported students with serious emotional disabilities through counseling, behavioral intervention, and crisis response.
 - Provided consultation and training to teachers and support staff to enhance student learning and adjustment.
 - Conducted Functional Behavior Assessments and developed Behavior Support and Intervention Plans.
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Education

George Mason University, Fairfax, VA

- Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies, School Psychology, May 2011
 - Master of Arts, Psychology, May 2010
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Certifications

- ADA Coordinator Certification, ADA Coordinator Training Certification Program
 - ADA Coordinator Certification, ATIXA
 - Program for the Education and Enrichment of Relational Skills (PEERS) Certified Provider, UCLA
 - Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST), University of Mary Washington
 - Nationally Certified School Psychologist, Certificate Number: 40998
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