

# What is the difference between learning difficulties and learning disorders?

The distinction between learning difficulties and learning disorders depends on the source of the difficulties encountered. Here are the main differences between learning difficulties and learning disorders:



## Learning Difficulties

- These difficulties are often temporary and explained by unusual circumstances.
- With specific interventions, these difficulties will improve and correct themselves.
- Learning difficulties originate from multiple factors, for example :
  - Emotional (performance anxiety, lack of motivation, family or socio-economic situations affecting learning availability).
  - Pedagogical (inefficient work methods, pedagogical differences in between teacher and student, changing schools).
  - Cognitive (attention disorders).

## Learning Disorders

- These difficulties persist despite multiple interventions.
- Learning disorders are of neurodevelopmental origin (involving certain areas of the brain during development).
- The difficulties are not attributable to intellectual disabilities, sensory deficits, other neurological or psychiatric disorders, psychosocial or environmental factors.
- These difficulties require the implementation of accommodation measures and modified pedagogical expectations.

