



The Difference Between High School and College for Students with Disabilities

Applicable Laws	
HIGH SCHOOL	COLLEGE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I.D.E.A. • Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADA • Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act • Fair Housing Act
Required Documentation	
HIGH SCHOOL	COLLEGE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual Education Act (I.E.P.) 504 Plan • School provides evaluation at no cost to student. • School conducts evaluations at prescribed intervals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Varies depending on the disability. I.E.P. and 504 Plan may not be sufficient, should include testing on which the accommodations are based. • Student responsible for evaluation (if necessary) at own expense. • Documentation must support requested accommodation. • Student generally not required to be re-tested after initial documentation approval unless additional accommodations or change in disability status warrant more documentation.
Student Role	
HIGH SCHOOL	COLLEGE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student is identified and tested by school. • Parents/teachers are in charge. • Primary responsibility for accommodations belongs to the school. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student must self-identify to Disability Services. • Primary responsibility for accommodations belongs to the student. • Student can choose whether or not to use accommodations.

Parental Role

HIGH SCHOOL

- Parent has access to student's records and participates in accommodation process.
- Parent advocates for student.

COLLEGE

- Parent does not have access to disability-related records unless student provides written consent.
- Student advocates for self.
- Parent transitions from advocate to mentor.

Instruction

HIGH SCHOOL

- Many modify curriculum and /or alter pace of assignments.
- Use multi-sensory approach.
- Weekly testing, mid-term, final, and graded assignments.
- Supplemental instruction may be provided.
- Time in class to work on assignments.
- Attendance taken and reported.

COLLEGE

- Is not required to modify course curriculum or program requirements.
- Tend to rely on lecture. May or may not use multi-approach.
- Testing and assignment frequency vary.
- Most work done outside of class.
- Is not required to provide coaching or tutoring.
- Student is responsible for attending class.
- Student much participate.

Assessment

HIGH SCHOOL

- Grades and curriculum may be modified.
- Extra work may be given to raise grades
- Effort and seat time may be considered as part of the grade.

COLLEGE

- Grades reflect the work submitted.
- Extra work/credit is not an accommodation
- Participation and mastery of material - as demonstrated through assessment - determine grades.