

Differences between High School and College for Students with Disabilities

HIGH SCHOOL	COLLEGE
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Applicable Laws

I.D.E.A (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)	A.D.A. (American with Disabilities Act of 1990, Title 11)
Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973	Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973
I.D.E.A. is about Success	A.D.A. is about Access

Required Documentation

I.E.P. (Individual Education Plan) and/or 504 Plan	High School I.E.P. and 504 are not sufficient. Documentation guidelines specify information needed for each category of disability.
School provides evaluation at no cost.	Student must be evaluated at own expense.
Documentation focuses on determining whether student is eligible for services based on specific disability categories of I.D.E.A.	Documentation must provide information on specific functional limitation, and demonstrate the need for specific accommodations.

Self-Advocacy

Student is identified by the school and is supported by parents and teachers	Student must self-identify to Student with Disability Services in the SRC
Primary responsibility for arranging accommodations belongs to the school	Primary responsibility for self-advocacy and arranging accommodations belongs to the student
Teachers approach you if they believe you need assistance	Professors are usually open and helpful, but most expect you to initiate contact if you need assistance

Parental Role

Parent has access to student records and can participate in the accommodation process	Parent does not have access to student records without student's written consent.
Parent advocates for student	Student advocates for self

Instruction

Teachers may modify curriculum or alter curriculum pace of assignments	Professors are not required to modify design or alter assignments
You are expected to read short assignments that are then discussed and often re-taught in class	You are assigned substantial amounts of reading and writing which may not be directly addressed in class
You seldom need to read anything more than once, sometimes listening in class is enough	You need to review class notes and text material regularly