

ACCOMMODATION DIFFERENCES

The Office of Accessibility Resources 137 Killian Annex

HIGH SCHOOL

COLLEGE

APPLICABLE LAWS

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
(IDEA),
Section 504, Rehabilitation Act

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA),
Section 504, Rehabilitation Act

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or 504 Plan

School provides evaluation at no cost to the
student and retests over time.

Testing documentation is **required** and varies
depending on the disability.

Student **must** provide the evaluation at their own
expense and initiates reevaluation.

STUDENT ROLE

Student is identified by the school.

School sets up accommodations.

Student self-identifies to Accessibility Resources.

Student is responsible for securing
accommodations.

PARENTAL ROLE

Undisputed access to student records

No access to student records without the
student's consent

Student requests accommodations.
Student is self-advocate.

TEACHERS/INSTRUCTORS

Potential modification of curriculum

Use of multi-sensory approach

Modifications are **not permitted or required.**

Lecture is predominant.

ASSIGNMENTS & GRADES

Weekly testing, mid-term, final,
and graded assignments

Attendance taken and reported.

Grades modified based on curriculum

May **test 3-4 times** with few assignments

Attendance often **not taken**, but student can be
dropped after missing 10% (1 class).

Grades reflect the **quality of work** submitted.

CONDUCT

Disruptive conduct *may* be accepted.

Students who are **disruptive** and unable to abide
by the institution's Code of Conduct are deemed
not qualified and can be **dismissed**.

MOST IMPORTANT DIFFERENCES

IDEA is about *Success*.
High school is mandatory and free.

ADA is about Access.
College is voluntary and expensive.

ABOUT ADA

The ADA extends civil rights protection to persons with disabilities. A "person with a disability" is anyone with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities.

Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (public institutions are covered under Title II), students with documented disabilities may request accommodations that will enable them to participate in postsecondary educational programs. A "qualified person with a disability" is defined as one who meets the requisite academic and technical standards required for admission or participation in the postsecondary institution's programs.

Institutions are expected to give "reasonable accommodations". Among accommodations college institutions *can* make are:

- Extra time on tests (1.5 time in most cases.)
- Use of Test Proctoring Center or other separate setting
- Assistive Technology
- Interpreters
- Notetakers

The **emphasis of the ADA is on accessibility** for those who wish to pursue education at the college level. There is no obligation on the part of a college to make fundamental changes in its courses for students with disabilities.

**Students with disabilities who complete high school will enter either the workforce or a postsecondary educational environment. Having attained the age of legal majority, they will be expected to exhibit self-advocacy and to communicate their own needs for reasonable accommodations in work or educational environments.*

