



Differences Between High School and College Disability Services

HIGH SCHOOL

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY

Applicable Laws

I.D.E.A.
(Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)
Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973

A.D.A. (Americans with Disabilities Act of
1990, Title II)
Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Required Documentation

I.E.P. (Individual Education Plan) 504 Plan

Varies depending on the disability; high school I.E.P. and 504 are not sufficient; documentation must be current; specific functional limitations and recommendations for accommodations

School provides evaluation at no cost to student

Student must get evaluation at own expense

School conducts evaluations
at prescribed intervals

Student must provide current
documentation from a licensed professional

Identification of Disability

Student is identified by the school and is supported by parents and teachers

Student **must self-identify** to the office of Disability Services (DS)

Primary responsibility for arranging accommodations belongs to the school

Student is responsible for self advocacy and meeting with the Special Needs counselor to fill out the accommodation letter

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; student must initiate and complete accommodation process

Parent advocates for student

Student advocates for self and must have

frequent contact with the counselor

Instruction

Teachers may modify curriculum and/or alter pace of assignments

Professors are not required to modify curriculum design

Frequent use of multi-sensory tools

Tends to be lecture style; may or may not use multi-sensory approach; online computer component

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

Testing and assignment requirements vary; Professors expect you to read, save and consult the course syllabus; the syllabus spell out exactly what is expected of you; when it is due and how you will be graded

Attendance taken and reported

Attendance is taken and absences are limited to a specific number of hours; if the student exceeds this number of hours, you will be withdrawn from the course; follow VGCC's curriculum attendance policy

Grades and Tests

Grades may be modified based on curriculum

Grades reflect the quality of work submitted; student must request testing accommodations at the beginning of each semester

Transportation

School provides transportation at no cost

Student must arrange transportation

Conduct/Academic Dishonesty

Disruptive conduct may be accepted

Disruptive behavior is not accepted and disciplinary action will be taken; responsible for abiding by VGCC's Code of Conduct

Most Important Differences in Summary

I.D.E.A. is about *Success*

A.D.A. is about *Access*

High School is mandatory and free

Postsecondary is voluntary and the student is responsible for the cost

Disability Services
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