

High School and College Comparison - How Accommodations Differ

There are different federal laws in place regarding students with disabilities and education.

One set of laws applies to students with disabilities in grades K-12. These laws include the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (**IDEA**), Free Appropriate Education (**FAPE**), and The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 Section 504, **Subpart D**.

The other set of laws applies to students with disabilities in college. These laws include The Americans with Disabilities Act (**ADA**) and The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 Section 504, **Subpart E**.

Below is a brief overview highlighting some of the differences between these laws as they relate to students with disabilities in high school compared to students with disabilities in college.

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Free Appropriate Education (FAPE) The Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504 Subpart D		The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) The Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504, Subpart E .	
To Whom Does This Apply?	Free Appropriate Public Education to each student with a disability, regardless of the nature or severity of the disability	To Whom Does This Apply?	Student with a disability who meets the academic standards of the college (i.e. placement testing places student in college-level classes)
What Services Are Offered?	Ensure all students with a disability have available to them an education and related services designed to meet their unique needs and prepare them for further education	What Services Are Offered?	Accommodations that afford students with disabilities equal opportunity to obtain the same result, gain the same benefit, or reach the same level as their non-disabled peers
Parental Involvement	Parents have meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children	Parental Involvement	Student is considered a college student and accepts the rights and responsibilities associated with being a college student
Expectations	Teachers and staff help students learn, understand, and remember class materials	Expectations	The student is expected to learn, understand, and remember class materials
Who Knows?	Teachers and staff are aware which students have an IEP/ETR, ISP, or 504 Plan	Who Knows?	Student must self-disclose their disability to their Instructor
What Document Shows My Accommodations?	IEP/ETR, 504 Plan, ISP etc.	What Document Shows My Accommodations?	Your DS Advocate will create your Letter of Accommodation