

Differences between High School and Post Secondary Schools Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

High Schools

Post Secondary Schools

Follow IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act), Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act. IDEA is about SUCCESS	Follow ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990), Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973. ADA is about ACCESS
IEP (Individualized Education Plan and/or 504 Plan)	Documentation must provide information on specific functional limitations, and demonstrate the need for specific accommodations.
Purposed outcomes, evaluation criteria, and instructional practices (e.g. pace of assignments) may be modified.	The Post Secondary School makes reasonable accommodations in instructional programs which do not alter the essential content or requirements of a course or program
Parent advocates for student	Student advocates for self
The school automatically incorporates accommodations into the student's daily schedule once a disability is documented	The student must self-identify their disability to the Accommodations Office and follow the process to receive services each semester.
Special classes and placement must be available for students	Post Secondary schools are not required to provide special classes or programs for students with disabilities
I.E.P or 504 plan may include modifications to test format and/or grading	Accommodations to how tests are given (i.e. extended time, private room) are available when supported by disability documentation.
Teachers often take time to remind you of assignments and dates	Instructors expect you to read, save, and consult the course syllabus.
Tutoring and study support may be a service provided as part of an I.E.P or 504 plan	Tutoring does not fall under Disability Services. There is academic assistance available to all students on a free, drop-in basis.
High schools provide a high level of support and take responsibility in IEP/504 plan.	Post Secondary Schools provide a different level of support, and it is the student's responsibility to ask for help and advocate for themselves.