



# Accommodations for College

Understanding your accommodations  
and your rights

# Americans with Disabilities Act

- Or A.D.A. Was enacted so people living with learning and/or physical disabilities would be able to receive accommodations in order to access employment and education. This means that you cannot be discriminated against because you are living with a disability.



# Step one is being prepared: Everyone heading for college does these things.....

- Know your due dates for application submission.
- Take your Compass test for community college or your PSAT and SAT or ACT for four year college
- Fill out your FAFSA or financial aid form at [fafsa.gov](https://fafsa.gov)
- Take and pass all your classes and complete your graduation requirements.

If you have an IEP or a 504 Plan,  
then you have some additional  
considerations.



## *So where do you start?*



1. Know your IEP or 504 Plan
2. Make an appointment with the Disabilities Service Coordinator at the college of your choice.
3. Look for on campus supports.
4. Investigate agencies that can help you.

# Know your IEP or 504



- Look at your accommodations on your IEP or 504. Most of your accommodations are also available at college.
- Extra time, a quiet place to take a test and use of a scribe are all examples of accommodations that can be made at college.
- Not all accommodations on your IEP or 504 are available at college. You cannot have shortened assignments or turn in work later.
- Accommodations should be accommodations already on your IEP or 504 and not added to your IEP just before you leave school.

# Talk with your Disabilities Service Coordinator...



- Every college has a Disabilities Service Coordinator
- It is up to you to provide documentation of your disability (IEP or 504) plan
- Make an appointment early.
- A Disabilities Service Coordinator can help you with accommodations.
- Your Disabilities Service Coordinator can help you with accommodations, but does not disclose your disability without your consent. A Disabilities Service Coordinator can serve as a liason for you with an instructor.

# On campus supports

- Almost all college campuses have writing and math centers
- Look for tutors in difficult subjects
- Adult Basic Ed can help you advance your math/reading and writing skills.
- Talk with the counseling office about course loads
- Use technology such as Dragon Dictate or have your textbooks downloaded. Order audio textbooks if needed.
- Link up with a study group
- Find other students who understand
- Use your syllabus to plan assignments





# Agencies that can help.....

- The Department of Vocational Rehabilitation is a resource available to adults with disabilities who meet criteria to receive services. If eligible, DVR may provide funds for training/education.
- SSI is a resource available to adults with disabilities who meet certain criteria and is an eligibility determined program that provides living support funds.
- D.S.H.S. Is an eligibility determined program for adults who need assistance with food stamps and medical care.
- FAFSA or financial aid is available by accessing the [fafsa.gov](https://fafsa.gov) website. It is important to note that families should apply for FAFSA in January in order to maximize their outcome.
- Do-IT is an organization that accepts applications to assist students in their junior year with an experience designed to connect students with disabilities to the college experience.

# The best advice .....

- Plan early and visit the campus to see if you feel comfortable
- Talk to your instructors often
- Get comfortable disclosing your disabilities and what you need in order to be successful
- Get organized
- As questions about student life

