

SO WHAT'S SO DIFFERENT ABOUT COLLEGE?

SECONDARY EDUCATION - HIGH SCHOOL

POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION - COLLEGE

## REQUIRED TO:

Make all programs and services physically accessible to all students • Provide auxiliary aids, notetakers, and appropriate equipment to ensure the participation of students with disabilities in college classes and activities • Accommodate the academic participation of qualified students with disabilities in college classes and activities

## NOT REQUIRED TO:

Provide specific auxiliary aids as long as the college provides a method of assistance that allows equal opportunity • Provide academic modifications if these modifications would fundamentally alter the nature of the course or program or place undue burden on the institution • Lower admission criteria for applicants with disabilities • Diagnose a disability or conduct testing and assessment of learning difficulties, physical, or mental impairments • Provide personal attendants • Provide personal or private tutors • Prepare “Individualized Education Programs” (IEP’s)

**Postsecondary institutions...**

HIGH SCHOOL

VS

COLLEGE

LEGAL

Instruction

SELF-ADVOCACY

Role of your Parents

Documentation

YOUR  
RESPONSIBILITIES

I will talk to my professors about the accommodations I am to receive.

I visit the Student Support Office to apply for accommodations.

# WHAT DOES IT REALLY MEAN TO ADVOCATE FOR MYSELF?

I speak up for my needs.

I ask for help.

I will arrange for my own accommodations.

I know who to go to when I need assistance.

# HIGH SCHOOL

# COLLEGE

## LEGAL DIFFERENCES

IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)	ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990)
Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973	Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973
IDEA is about facilitating <i>SUCCESS</i>	ADA is about facilitating <i>ACCESS</i>



# NTACT

National Technical Assistance Center on Transition

—

# HIGH SCHOOL

# COLLEGE

## DOCUMENTATION

IEP and/or Section 504 Plan	Documentation guidelines specify information required for each category of disability
Evaluation provided at the school's expense	Student is responsible for providing necessary documentation (i.e., testing)
Documentation intended to determine eligibility for services based on specific categories in IDEA	Documentation must include information on specific functional limitations and must demonstrate the need for specific accommodations

# HIGH SCHOOL

# COLLEGE

## SELF-ADVOCACY

Student – identified by the school; supported by parents and teachers	Student must self-identify (disclose) to the office of disability services
School is responsible for arranging accommodations	Student is responsible for self-advocacy; arranging accommodations is the student's responsibility
Teachers may approach the student if they feel they are in need of help	Professors typically wait for the student to initiate contact if help is needed



# HIGH SCHOOL

# COLLEGE

## WHAT'S DIFFERENT IN CLASS?

Teachers may modify curriculum or assignments	Professors are not required to make modifications to curriculum nor to assignments (including deadlines)
Content is supported differently (i.e., material for homework may be discussed in class or re-taught)	Many classes require large amounts of reading and writing which may or may not be reviewed in class
Content material is typically less dense and intense and in-depth review may not be as necessary	Content material is often dense and may require greater review and active reading/note-taking; review is essential

# HIGH SCHOOL

# COLLEGE

## ROLE OF YOUR PARENTS

Parent has access to the student's records	Student must provide written consent for parent to access student records (due to FERPA)
Attends IEP or Section 504 meetings	Students attend meetings on their own (unless they provide parental consent to attend meetings)
Parent may advocate for their child	Student must advocate for him- or herself

# HIGH SCHOOL

# COLLEGE

## YOUR ROLE

Tutoring and academic support may be a part of a student's IEP or 504 plan	Tutoring and academic support are not a part of the office of disability services; students must use the tutoring/academic support services offered to all students
The student's time is structured by others (i.e., in school 8 hours a day)	The student structures his or her own time and must complete assignments independently (i.e., no progress checks)
Study time outside of class may be minimal	An average of 2-3 hours per credit hour is usually required in college-level classes (i.e., a 3 credit class requires between 8-10 additional hours)

- Know what documentation you will need from high school and get it before you graduate
- Go to the special services office before you start college to start getting your needs in order
- Don't be shy about it – understand your disability and your academic needs related to your disability
- Be ready to study more and stay more organized than you ever thought you would, a lot more
- Know that you will have to be an adult and take control of your college decisions

## Takeaways

# WORDS OF WISDOM...FROM SOME WINTHROP STUDENTS...

I would tell myself not to procrastinate as long as I had in high school. I would also tell myself to get started right away and get myself prepared ahead of time

Be more of who you truly are. You will make friends being yourself, not the shadow of someone else

Study, study, study, STUDY !  
-Time management skills help ..  
A LOT

become very familiar with your teachers because in college you will need their help

Form a study group

always be yourself

Whatever you do DO NOT I repeat DO NOT procrastinate

Ensure that you take plenty of notes in class, you never know what the professor will cover on the test

Choose a place where YOU feel most at home. Use campus resources and don't be shy, college life is full of surprises, friendships, and opportunities waiting to happen

Love and accept yourself for who you are, who you will be, and what you will become in the future

When it comes to college, it is all about managing your time and having priorities

I would advise the students at my old high school to study and really work hard because when you get to college the work level is doubled