

You Should Know

Differences Between High School & College For Students with Disabilities

**Office of Accessibility Resources
Cayuga Community College**



Auburn Campus
Center for Academic Success
197 Franklin Street
Auburn, NY 13021
315-255-1743 ext. 2422

Fulton Campus
Center for Academic Success
11 River Glen Drive
Fulton, NY 13069
315-592-4143 x3027

Legal Differences

High School	College
Services are provided under IDEA or Section 504, Subpart D.	Services are provided under ADA and Section 504, Subpart E.
The IEP is mandated and followed.	Accommodations are reviewed each semester.
The student has a right to an education, paid for by the state. Therefore special programs are created to meet the student's needs.	A college education is a privilege instead of a right, and special programs are not required.
High school personnel talk freely with parents.	The Buckley Amendment requires that the student give written permission to personnel to talk to parents.
Accommodations are provided to <u>ensure the success</u> of the student.	Accommodations are provided to ensure equal access, and success is the responsibility of the student.
School districts are responsible for identifying and evaluating disability at no cost to the student or family.	The student must self-identify and provide appropriate and current documentation based on the College's requirements. The College is not responsible for the payment of evaluations.
Parents sign documents for students.	Students sign all documents.
Parents are actively involved in planning and decisions.	Students are considered adults and must advocate for themselves.

Academic Differences

High School	College
High school personnel have the responsibility to try to modify inappropriate behavior caused by the disability into appropriate behavior.	Students are responsible for their own behavior, and inappropriate behavior is not tolerated.
Tests are often modified or shortened, or questions are modified.	Students are expected to take the same tests as all students.
Shortened or modified assignments as well as extra time to complete assignments are often given.	Students are expected to do the same work in the same time frame as all students. When documentation supports extended time on tests, exceptions on assignments may be considered.
Teachers are asked to adapt their teaching mode to the student.	Faculty has academic freedom in delivery, course content, requirements, and method of evaluation.
Accommodations are given for all subjects and do not have to be supported by diagnostic evaluation.	Accommodations are given only in the area of disability and must be supported by documentation.
Students are scheduled to see resource personnel on a regular basis or can come to the resource room on a drop-in basis.	Students must initiate requests for services including tutoring services.
Students' study is directed by special education teachers.	Students must have skills to organize, plan, and study independently.
Special educators inform instructors about a student's accommodation needs.	Students talk to their instructors about accommodation needs.

Other Differences

High School	College
Transportation is provided.	Transportation and mobility on campus are the responsibility of student.
Often paraprofessionals are provided if a student needs personal care or behavioral management assistance.	The College is not responsible for providing personal care or behavioral management assistance.
Adaptive technology is minimally used.	Students are expected to use available adaptive technology.
Some students are exposed to textbooks on tape but many receive reading assistance provided by human readers.	Students use electronic textbooks (e-text) and the computer or other electronic device reads the text to them using a digitized voice.

Courtesy of Genesee Community College, Batavia, New York