

Rights and Responsibilities Change After High School

For students who want to continue their education

IDEA: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

- The **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act**, or **IDEA**, is a law that protects students with disabilities while they are in school.
- It requires public schools to give you a **free and appropriate education**.
- If you are eligible, an **Individualized Education Program**, or **IEP**, is written for you.



IEP: Individualized Education Program

- A plan written by students, teachers, and their families that includes needs, strengths, goals and supports for a student.



Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act

- **Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act** protects people with disabilities in high school and college.
- It says that they should be treated fairly in public programs.
- After high school, **Section 504** makes sure students are not rejected from college due to their disability.
- In college, **Section 504** allows students to get accommodations and supports.
- Colleges determine if students are qualified to get support,
- A **qualified individual** is a student who meets the same admission requirements as students without disabilities. They also have a physical or mental disability that limits one or more major life activities.



504 Plan

- A plan written by teachers and parents that includes what **accommodations students will need at school**



ADA: Americans with Disabilities Act

- The **Americans with Disabilities Act**, or **ADA**, is a law that says people with disabilities should be treated fairly in school, in the workplace, and in the community.
- **The ADA** makes sure that colleges provide equal access to education for students with disabilities.



Differences Between High School and College

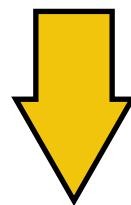
- The **IDEA** does not apply in college.
- An **IEP** does not carry over into college.
- **Section 504** protects people with disabilities in all schools.
- High schools are responsible for identifying students who have a disability. They create plans for services and accommodations.
- Students are responsible for advocating for themselves in college. Students must disclose their disability. Students will need to request supports and accommodations.
- Parents are not required to be involved when students apply for accommodations in college.
- Colleges must provide **reasonable accommodations**. Reasonable accommodations in college means that the college is not required to change class or admission requirements.
- Colleges provide accommodations to students who qualify. They do not provide interventions or direct services like high schools do.



Wrap Up

- There are differences between **accommodations** in high school and college.
- **The IDEA** only applies to kindergarten through high school.
- You are protected by **ADA** and **Section 504** in all schools.
- This means you can't be treated unfairly because of your disability.
- If you need an accommodation in college, you will need to disclose your disability.
- Colleges have to give accommodations to students but only if they are **reasonable** and the student is qualified.

KEEP READING FOR MORE DETAILS



Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

- The IDEA is a law that protects students with disabilities while they are in the public-school system
- The IDEA is a federal special education law that requires schools to provide a free and appropriate education to students with disabilities
- When students are eligible, an Individualized Education Program (IEP) is written by a team of people who work at the school, the student, and the student's family or other service providers
 - Example: Latif's teachers met and decided that Latif needs a read aloud accommodation in all of his classes because his disability impacts his reading skills.
- IEPs may include the student receiving specific services in areas of need
 - Example: Latif goes to a small group for reading instruction taught by a special education teacher three times a week.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (Section 504)

- Section 504 is a law that protects individuals with disabilities from discrimination in high school and college
- Section 504 is a law that protects the rights of individuals with disabilities from discrimination in a public program that receives money from the government, which includes public schools and colleges
- A 504 plan is developed in high school when a student needs certain accommodations or modifications in the learning environment
- Students who receive 504 plans do not need the support level of a special education program's specialized services or interventions
 - Example: Kate has asthma which makes it difficult for her to breathe in physical activity outdoors. Her 504 allows her access to shortened activities in for Physical Education.
- Section 504 also protects students in college and makes sure that students are not rejected because they have a disability
- In college, Section 504 allows students to get the accommodations and supports needed to have equal access to the college experience
- Colleges determine if students are qualified in order to receive support

- A “qualified individual” is defined as:
 - A student who meets the same admission requirements as students without disabilities
 - Any student who has a physical or mental impairment which significantly limits one or more major life activities
 - Example: Eliza earned a 3.5 GPA in high school and earned a 24 on her ACT and meets all of the college’s admission requirements. Eliza has a disability that impacts her vision, so she needs access to preferred seating in classes and large print for classroom assignments and tests.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

- The ADA is a civil rights law that protects people with disabilities from discrimination
- Title II of the ADA protects all students with disabilities in colleges and technical schools that are funded by the state
- Title III of the ADA protects all students with disabilities in any private program or college as long as the student meets the admission requirements
- Both public and private colleges must provide equal access to postsecondary education for students with disabilities

Main Differences Between High School and College

The IDEA does not apply in college. The purpose of the IDEA is to make sure students with disabilities have equal access to public education for preschool, elementary school, and high school

- An IEP does not carry over into college
- Section 504 protects the rights of individuals with disabilities in any public program, which includes schools
- High schools are responsible for identifying students who have a disability and providing services that give an equal opportunity to an education
- High schools are responsible for creating a plan for services and accommodations that are individualized for students with disabilities
- Parents are not required to be involved when students apply for accommodations in college
- In college, students are responsible for advocating for themselves

- In college, students are responsible for disclosing their disability and requesting support and accommodations
 - Example: Veronica needs an alternate space for testing so that she can have extended time. She has to provide Student Services with documentation of her disability. She will also need to apply for disability services and any accommodations needed.
- Colleges are required to provide reasonable accommodations to students, but they are not required to change course or admission requirements
 - Example: Steven wants to apply at a University that requires an ACT score of 28. He scored a 26. The college does not have to admit him because he did not meet the admission requirements.
- Colleges can provide accommodations to students who qualify, but they do not provide intervention or direct services like high schools do
 - Example: In high school, Cara receives read aloud and text-to-speech accommodations and small group instruction in math where she gets extra support with learning new content. In college, she qualifies to receive text-to speech, but they do not provide small group instruction.