

Some Differences in High School and College

IDEA - 504 - ADA Laws

High School	College
Education <u>is a right</u> under IDEA and must be provided in an appropriate environment to all individuals.	Education is <u>not a right</u> . ADA/504 are Civil Rights laws. Students must meet admission criteria defined under ADA/504 as “otherwise qualified”.
School district is responsible to identify a student’s disability.	Students must self-identify in college if they wish services.
School district provides free testing, evaluation, and transportation to program.	Student must provide current and appropriate documentation as defined by the college. If documentation from high school is not adequate, student pays for additional evaluation/testing.
Transition planning and timelines exist to clarify students’ vision, identify programming choices and coordinate appropriate coursework options.	Students make course selections with some assistance from advisors or instructors.
School district develops IEP to define educational supports and services under special education.	<u>No IEP/special education in college.</u> Only academic accommodations based upon individual need and equal access.
IEP Team (including student) determines IEP supports and services that will be provided.	Disability Services Office determines accommodations with student and the student may be responsible to contact faculty for services*, (Students notify instructor through the <i>Accommodation Summary</i> form and DSS notifies instructors by email about accommodations approved.)
Access to general curriculum, necessary modifications, and a variety of appropriate accommodations are available.	No fundamental alterations to the curriculum are made. Academic accommodations and modifications are available based on student’s documented disability. <u>Any change to a course which would fundamentally alter the essential elements of the course is not required.</u>
Assignments may be reduced and extra time allowed to complete work.	Everyone is required to turn in complete assignments on time and do the same amount of work.
Personal services for medical or physical disability are required. Tutoring and aides are often allowed.	No personal services are required. (<i>Such as tutoring, personal aides, etc.</i>)

* Although responsibility lies with the student to contact instructor about accommodations, Disability Support Services works closely to develop Accommodation Requests and will advocate for student if difficulty arises.

Adopted with permission from Spokane Falls Community College DSS 2011/Updated November 2014 S. Vantrease

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Dependence vs. Independence

High School	College
Class is usually a semester or 90 days.	Quarter system meets approximately 53-55 days.
Student may take same subject all year.	Student may have new classes every quarter and new text books.
The main office exists as the center of activity for school.	Students are responsible to know where to locate information, assistance, study support.
Rigid schedule with constant supervision.	Greater flexibility of scheduling.
Classes meet daily.	Classes may meet 1 to 5 times a week.
Attendance is taken.	Attendance policies are at discretion of instructor.
Missing classes for various reasons is permissible and you may still complete the course.	Missing classes may result in lowered grades or failing the class depending on course requirements.
Guidance counselors or other staff schedule support services for students.	Students connect with Disability Services staff and arrange all support services.
Someone is available to help plan study time (teachers, Spec Ed, parents).	Student responsible for setting and following through on all scheduling and study time.
Classes generally held in one building.	Classes are held at many different sites on campus.
Average class is 35-45 minutes.	Class times vary from 50 minutes to 4 hours.
Daily contact w/teachers and support staff.	Classes meet less frequently, impacting access to instructors and assistance. Instructors are not always available to assist the student.
Teachers closely monitor a students' progress.	Instructors may not monitor a student's progress but will grade based upon the student's work or may not make any effort to discuss a student's performance in spite of failing scores.
Parent permission required (until 18 years of age).	Student is an adult with all decision making authority. Parent permission not required. Generally a college cannot discuss with parents any student's information without permission from the student.