

K12 Special Ed vs Community College DSPS

¹K-12 Special Ed	vs.	Community College Disability Services
Mandatory attendance	vs.	Attend by choice
Children, in structured environment	vs.	Adults, in unstructured environment
Individual success is the goal	vs.	Equal access to succeed or fail is the goal
Differential success standards per student	vs.	Same success standards for all students
School must find and identify needs	vs.	Student must self-identify and state needs
School mostly responsible	vs.	Student mostly responsible
Free and Appropriate Education (FAPE)	vs.	1/8/2018 Not free. Tuition, fees, books
Individualized Educational Plan (IEP)	vs.	Academic Accommodation Plan (AAP)
Accommodations	vs.	Academic Adjustments, Auxiliary Aids and Services
LRE (Least Restrictive Environment)	vs.	Same environment (optional special classes)
Mainstream, special class, day class	vs.	Same classes (optional special classes)
School must assess	vs.	Student responsible to document disability
Must follow IEP	vs.	IEP not binding at colleges, AAP establishes required community colleges accommodations

¹ Hand out from Scott Hamilton ,Circa 2000s

Steps To Receive Disability Accommodations in College

1. Contact the college/university months before school starts to determine their disability service process. Every college/university will have a disability services office. You are responsible to contact them, they are not responsible to determine if you need services or accommodations unless you ask for them to do so.
2. Get current documentation of your disability from whichever professional is appropriate to diagnose your disability. The appropriate professional is different from condition to condition, so it might be a medical doctor, a psychologist, a school psychologist, a learning disability specialist, or in rare cases some other professional qualified to diagnose your specific condition. Some community colleges will accept a High School IEP or 504 Plan, some will not.
3. Make an appointment with the college disability services office. You will need to meet individually with someone from that office in order to have academic adjustments, auxiliary aids and services. Accommodations are adjustments in the manner or timing of the processes used in the educational setting intended to give you equal access to the instruction offered by the college/university. Accommodations are individually determined, but some examples are things like: approval for you to audio record lectures; a notetaker for lectures; extended time on tests; a different testing environment; alternate forms of information such as Braille or e-text; or others.
4. Depending on your particular college process, either take the accommodations approval form(s) to each of your professors for the classes you will need accommodations or double-check with your professors that they received the accommodation approvals from the disability services office.
5. Make sure you make any appointments needed for each instance of test proctoring or other accommodations/services. You are responsible to arrange for your accommodations. The college is not responsible to remember things for you, or to check and see if you need anything.
6. If there are approved accommodations you did not receive, contact the disability services office immediately. Don't wait, because adjustments cannot usually be made after-the-fact.