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Differences between K-12 and Higher Education Accommodations

K-12

COLLEGE

School is required to identify the student and provide evaluation

Student must selfidentify and provide documentation

School is required to communicate with faculty regarding the student's accommodations and services

Students are responsible for communicating with Accessibility

Services and their instructors about their accommodations

School may provide services in addition to the accommodations (i.e. a paraprofessional)

College only provides accommodations (no additional services)

Laws applicable to K-12 are I.D.E.A. (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) and Section 504.
These laws focus on student success.

Laws applicable in the Higher Education setting are the A.D.A (Americans with Disabilities Education Act) and Section 504. These laws focus on student access.

Parents are actively a part of all IEP and accessibility discussions with their student.

under FERPA, students must sign a release of information if they would like their parents to be involved in their accommodation discussions.

Students are often allowed modifications to assignments, tests, and other aspects of education that change the student's evaluation criteria or faculty expectations for that student. These modifications may or may not compromise essential elements of a class.

Students are expected to meet course expectations and be evaluated by the same criteria as their peers.

Accommodations change the way a student accesses course material but does not compromise any essential element of a course/program.



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Things Students Should Know About Their Disability Before College

Name of your disability/underlying condition?
Impact of your disability/underlying condition?
What barriers/challenges do you experience in the classroom?
How does your disability/underlying condition create that barrier?
What accommodations worked well/didn't work well in high school?
What accommodations would best support you in college?
What are your academic strengths?
What are your interpersonal/communication strengths?

For more information on the Accessibility Services process for students and parents, go to:

sctcc.edu/getting-started