

# College Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

New Mexico

## College Student Learning Accommodations

In college, accommodations are reasonable adjustments that the college provides to students to make it possible for students to access the class curriculum and reach educational goals. Students are responsible for connecting with the college disability office and requesting their own accommodations.

Accommodations in college may be different from what the student had in high school.

- High school students may want to ask their Individual Education Plan (IEP) team for recommendations about accommodations they might need as college students.
- Most four-year colleges require college student applicants to take either the American College Test (ACT), or the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT). Students may request test-taking accommodations in advance for these tests. For the ACT, request through the American College Testing website. For the SAT, request through the College Board website. Accommodations may include large print, extended time, frequent breaks or other.
- To request college accommodations, students may need to submit notes from doctors, an IEP plan, or other documentation.
- Students, ages 14 and up, can request supports from the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) such as assistive technology, books, tuition, tutors, etc.

## Requesting Accommodations in College

- Once accepted into a college, students may request accommodations by contacting the college disability office.
- Some valuable skills for students getting ready to go to college include knowing how to document their disabilities, understanding the college disability office's requirements and services, and advocating for their own learning needs.
- In high school, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is the law that specifies available accommodations for students.
- Once in college, Section 504 of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is the law that guides student accommodations and services.

## Examples of Accommodations College Students Might Request:

- Organizational skills training
- Adaptive technology, such as lecture recording devices
- Help with taking notes
- Financial aid considerations for reduced course load
- Separate testing room
- Assistive technology, such as audio books
- Alternate test formats
- Taking breaks from prolonged sitting
- Extended test times
- Accompaniment of a service animal
- Interpreter services
- Modified seating equipment

## Remember:

- Each semester, students must contact the disability office and submit their schedule or other paperwork.
- If a college student over the age of 18 wants to allow family or other persons to have access to their educational records, the student will need to give written permission.



### DVR

*Student Guidelines*  
<http://bit.ly/2v6nR63>

### ACT

*Accommodations and Supports*  
<http://bit.ly/2t4TrzB>

### College Board

*Request SAT, PSAT & AP Exam Accommodations*  
866-630-9305  
<http://bit.ly/2uDyiAh>

### CDD Information Network

*College Disability Offices – New Mexico Tip Sheet*  
<http://bit.ly/2gLruep>

### Partners for Employment

*Postsecondary Education Transition Tip Sheet*  
<http://bit.ly/2uDDCUg>  
*The Transition from High School to College*  
<http://bit.ly/2uJIRUd>

### U.S Dept. of Education Transition Guide

[www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/transitionguide.html](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/transitionguide.html)

### Questions?

Call the CDD Information Network

**1-800-552-8195**

or visit our website at  
[www.cdd.unm.edu/infonet](http://www.cdd.unm.edu/infonet)

Informational Tip Sheets:

[www.cdd.unm.edu/info-net/tip-sheets.html](http://www.cdd.unm.edu/info-net/tip-sheets.html)