

## **Differences Between Secondary and Postsecondary Academic Institutions: Accommodating Students with Disabilities**

<b>High School</b>	<b>Community College/University</b>
Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is applied at the high school level	The American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Sections 504 and 508 of the Rehabilitation Act are applied at the university level
IDEA is about success	The ADA is about access
Fundamental modifications of programs and curricula are required	No fundamental modifications are required—only accommodations
Education is a right and must be provided in an appropriate environment to all individuals	Education is not a right—students must meet certain admission criteria
The school develops Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) to define education services	Students must identify needs and request services; no IEP exists and is not considered sufficient documentation
The school is responsible for identifying a student's disability and provides free evaluations	Identification by student is voluntary and appropriate documentation/evaluations are the responsibility of the student
The school must involve parents in decision making for the student	The student is responsible for seeking assistance and arranging accommodations
Personal services for medical and physical disabilities are required	No personal services are provided—however, Student Disability Services may assist the student in advertising for such services
Parents have access to student records and can participate in the IEP process	Parents do not have access to student records without student's written consent
Parent advocates for student	Student must advocate for self