High school/colllege: Different laws, different services

Differences in the legal mandates between high school and postsecondary education mean that accommodations in college are not necessarily duplications of what a student received in high school. In high school, accommodations are provided to ensure the success of the student; in college, accommodations are provided to ensure equal access. Success is the responsibility of the student.
How do I request accommodations?

Students must self-identify to Student Accessibility Services and request accommodations. Students will be asked to provide documentation of their disability and complete forms related to their accommodation requests. Students who are taking classes on campus will be asked to meet with a staff member to discuss the accommodations process. Students who are taking classes online only will need to communicate via phone or email with a staff member. Although students can request accommodations at any time, students are encouraged to come in as early as possible since accommodations are not retroactive. Students requesting housing accommodations need to contact Student Accessibility Services well in advance of the start of the semester and follow the housing accommodations request procedure outlined online.

Am I eligible?

All students with documented disabilities can request academic accommodations at the university. Students with a disability must meet with a Student Accessibility Services staff member to determine eligibility for requested accommodations. Decisions are made on a case-by-case basis.

What kind of documentation must I provide?

Documentation guidelines vary based on the type of disability. Specific guidelines can be found online (umaine.edu/studentaccessibility).

Student Accessibility Services

Student Accessibility Services works with students who have a variety of disabilities, including:

- Learning disabilities
- ADHD
- Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Psychological/mental health disorders
- Physical disabilities
- Chronic illnesses
- Neurological disabilities

What type of accommodations are available?

Student Accessibility Services provides testing accommodations, including extra time, reduced distraction testing locations, readers and scribes. Additional accommodations include note-taking assistance, alternate format texts and auxiliary aides. Student Accessibility Services does not provide personal aides or personal equipment.