

The Differences Between *High School & College*

Does my IEP carry over from High School?

How can I get support in college?

What is my role as a parent now that my student is starting college?

What are accommodations?

IDEA IEP? 504 Plan? Accommodations? I'm so confused!

You have questions!

We are here to help you transition from high school to college! There are some differences you should know about.

Identification of Barriers

High School	College
The school district is responsible for identifying a student's disability.	Students must self-identify to the Center for Disability Services office to receive services. You must have an intake appointment with a CDS Staff member and complete paperwork.
The school district provides evaluations at no cost for the student.	The student is responsible for providing information from their High School, clinician or other provider to support their request for accommodations.

Accommodations vs. Modifications

High School	College
Fundamental modifications of programs and curricula are required to support the student's success.	No fundamental modifications are required - only accommodations , to provide equal access to academic material.
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 district develops Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) to define educational services	Student must work with the CDS Office to identify needs and request services. The student will be provided with a legal accommodation letter outlining their eligibility.

This document is available in an accessible format.

Everett Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religious belief, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national or ethnic origin, disability, genetic information, veteran status or age.

Academic Support

High School	College
Student is supported by parents and teachers	Student is responsible for seeking assistance from the Center for Disability Services or other student services offices on campus such as counselling or tutoring.
Primary responsibility for arranging modifications belongs to the school	Primary responsibility for self-advocacy and arranging accommodations belongs to the student (who may seek assistance from the CDS Office)
Guidance counselors or other staff schedule support services for students	The student must make arrangements for support services
Personal services for medical and physical disabilities are required (i.e., Personal Care Attendant)	No personal services are provided.

Parent Support

High School	College
Parent has access to student records and can participate in the IEP process	Parent does not have access to student records without student's written consent
The student needs the parent's permission in most instances	The student is an adult and parent permission is not required
Parent advocates for student	Student must advocate for self

School Differences

High School	College
The average length of a class is 35-45 minutes	Classes vary in length from 50 min to 3 hours
Daily contact with teachers	Classes may meet less frequently which will impact on access to instructors and assistance
A main office exists as the center of activity for the building	The student is responsible for knowing where to go to obtain information and assistance, as each service may be in a different location
Teachers often take time to remind you of assignments and due dates	Instructors expect you to read, save and consult the course syllabus (outline); this tells the student exactly what is expected of him/her, when it is due and how it will be graded

Applicable Laws

High School	College
Public school students are protected by Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or IDEA, federal law that assists students in public education from 3 years old until the completion of High School. Section 504-D provides curriculum modifications and requires the student to be reevaluated. You may have had an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or a 504-Plan in High School.	Students of public colleges, like Everett Community College, are protected by Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and Sections 504-E and 508 of the Rehabilitation Act ensure all students at public colleges have access to the same services, regardless of barriers. You will be provided accommodations to reduce your academic barriers.
IDEA is about student success	The ADA, a civil rights law, is about equal access