

How to Best Prepare Your High School Student for Community College

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A Little Bit About Us

- ▶ Nicole Despins, Disability Support Services Counselor
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Accommodations vs. Modifications

High school (child)

- ▶ IDEA
- ▶ Student has IEP
- ▶ Teachers/parents advocates
- ▶ Staff initiates accommodations
- ▶ Students attendance is required monitored
- ▶ Teachers don't drop students
- ▶ Curriculum can be modified
- ▶ Parent can access student records records

College (Adult)

- ADA & Section 504
- Student must provide documentation and request services
- Student advocates
- Student initiates accommodations
- Students have more choice and freedom and
- Professors have the option to drop students
- No modifications to curriculum
- Parent must have permission to access



Preparing for Community College

While still in high school

- ▶ Take as much Math as possible
- ▶ Wean off 1:1 aides
- ▶ Start thinking about a potential major
 - ▶ Community colleges will require that freshman choose a major at the time of application. This major can be changed, but will may drive the type of courses that a student takes, even at the general education level



Preparing for Community College

Learning to Self Advocate

- ▶ Work with your child on learning about their disability, their challenges, their needs, and their strengths
 - ▶ This will help them in the process of learning what they should self-advocate for in college and beyond
- ▶ Have your child start to participate in their own IEP meetings
 - ▶ This is a great step in the process of passing on the advocacy responsibilities from you to your child...both exciting and scary



Preparing for Community College

Senior year HS and summer before Freshman year

- ▶ Prepare for a potential change in accommodations or the way accommodations are administered
- ▶ Know the process for requesting or activating accommodations at your community college
- ▶ Visit the campus in the summer when it is not crowded and learn where classes, student services, tutoring center, etc. are on campus
- ▶ Bring IEP/senior year binder to first Disability Support Services counseling appointment
- ▶ Attend any Welcome Day, Orientation Day, etc. that is offered at the community college prior to the start of Fall semester
- ▶ Do not take summer courses the summer prior to beginning college



Common Accommodations in Post Secondary Education

Your student may be eligible for some or all of the below accommodations

- Testing accommodations
- Kurzweil text to speech
- Notetaking services
 - Smartpens
- Mobility services
- Priority registration
- Academic counseling



Current Application/Registration Process for Incoming Freshman

- Currently, incoming freshman with an IEP or 504 plan should NOT take Couns 095, they should follow the process outlined on the following checklist



DVC Disability Support Services Parent Nights

- ▶ We will be holding two parent nights for parents of incoming freshman where we will discuss the transition from high school to DVC for students with disabilities

Wednesday, February 20th

5:00 – 7:00

Thursday, March 7th

5:00 – 7:00

BFL Community Conference Room

Diablo Valley College



California Department of Rehabilitation (DOR)

- California Department of Rehabilitation is an employment and independent living resource for people with disabilities.
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