



# DISABILITY SERVICES

HELPING YOUR FAMILIES NAVIGATE FROM



High school to college

# INTRODUCTION

## **Who We Are**

The Office of Disability Services at Rivier University  
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## **What We Do**

The Office of Disability Services provides services to any student who qualifies as having a disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and applicable New Hampshire Law.

## **Examples of Services Offered**

- Coordination of services
- Advocacy / Self-Advocacy skills
- Collaboration with campus community in responding to disability related issues and concerns
- Assistance with diagnostic evaluation and referral



**How can I best help my students with disabilities be prepared for college?**

— SCHOOL GUIDANCE COUNSELORS

# 1

## Understand Disability Law High School vs. College

### High School

LAW: IDEA

Schools must identify students with disabilities

Student progress is monitored by the school

Students have an IEP/IEP team to make sure they receive modifications and accommodations

### College

LAW: ADA, Section 504

Students must self-disclose their disability to the school

Student is responsible for monitoring his/her progress

Student is responsible for seeking out accommodations

# How does this impact them?

“In college, assignments cannot be modified if the modification fundamentally alters the nature of the assignment.”

- Students will need to self-identify to disability services
- There are no longer IEP's
- Modifications to the course work that fundamentally alters the nature of the assignment cannot be made

## 5 Tips for New College Students With Disabilities



# 2

## Comparing High School and College for a Student with Disabilities



The infographic is split into two vertical panels. The left panel is grey and labeled 'High School'. It features a cartoon illustration of a young man's face. The right panel is yellow and labeled 'University'. It features a cartoon illustration of a young man in a graduation cap and gown. A small white circle with 'vs' is positioned between the two panels.

**High School** vs **University**

Teachers approach you if they believe you are falling behind

If you need assistance, you should initiate contact with your lecturer or tutor



- **Personal Freedom**
- **Classes**
- **Instructors**
- **Studying**
- **Tests**

## High School

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High School is mandatory and free

Your time is structured by others

You need permission to participate in extracurricular activities

You need money for special purchases and/or events

You can count on parents and teachers to remind you of your responsibilities and to guide you in setting priorities

## College

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College is voluntary and expensive

You manage your own time

You must decide whether to participate in extracurricular activities

You need money to meet basic necessities

You will be faced with a large number of moral and ethical decisions you have not had to face previously

# CLASSES

## High School

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Each day you proceed from one class directly to another

You spend 6 hours/day (30 hours/week) in class

The school year is 36 weeks long. Some classes extend over both semesters and some do not

Most of your classes are arranged for you

Teachers carefully monitor attendance

Attendance may be excused for medical purposes

Classes generally have no more than 35 students

You are provided with textbooks at little/no cost

You are not responsible for knowing what it takes to graduate

## College

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You often have hours between classes. Class times vary throughout day/eve.

You spend 12-16 hours each week in class

The academic year is divided into two separate 15 wk semesters

You arrange your own schedule in consultation with your advisor

Some instructors may not formally take attendance, but they are still likely to note whether or not you attended

Attendance and participation in class may be considered fundamental course components. Disability Services works with your instructors as a team to determine the best way to provide accommodations for attendance

Classes may number 100 or more students

You need to budget substantial funds for textbooks – each semester

Graduation requirements are complex, and differ between majors and years. You are expected to know those that apply to you

## High School

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- Teachers check your completed homework
- Teachers remind you of your incomplete work
- Teachers approach you if they believe you need assistance
- Teachers are often available for conversation before, during or after class
- Teachers have been taught teaching methods to assist in imparting knowledge to students
- Teachers provide you with information you missed when you were absent
- Teachers present materials to help you understand the material in the textbook
- Teachers impart knowledge and facts, sometimes drawing direct connections and leading you through the thinking process
- Teachers often take time to remind you of assignments and due dates

## College

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- Instructors may not always check completed homework, but they will assume you can perform the same tasks on tests
- Instructors may not remind you of incomplete work
- Instructors expect you to initiate contact if you need assistance
- Instructors expect and want you to attend their scheduled office hours
- Instructors have been trained as experts in their particular areas of research
- Instructors expect you to get from classmates notes from classes you missed
- Instructors may not follow the textbook
- Instructors expect you think about and synthesize seemingly unrelated topics
- Instructors expect you to read, save, and consult the course syllabus

## High School

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You may study outside of class as little as 0-2 hours a week. This may be mostly last-minute test preparation

You often need to read or hear presentations only once to learn all you need to learn about them

You are expected to read short assignments that are then discussed and often re-taught in class

## College

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You need to study at least 2-3 hours outside of class for each hour in class

You need to review class notes and text materials regularly

You are assigned substantial amounts of reading and writing which may not be directly addressed in class

## High School

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Testing is frequent and covers small amounts of material

Makeup tests are often available

Teachers frequently rearrange test dates to avoid conflict with school events

Teachers frequently conduct review sessions, pointing out the most important concepts

Mastery is usually seen as the ability to reproduce what you were taught in the form in which it was presented or solve the kinds of problems you were shown

## College

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Testing is infrequent and may be cumulative, covering a large amount of material. A particular course may only have 2-3 tests per semester

Makeup tests are seldom an option. If they are, you need to request them

Instructors in different courses usually schedule tests without regard to the demands of other courses or outside activities

Instructors rarely offer review sessions, and when they do, they expect you to be an active participant – one who comes prepared with questions

Mastery is often seen as the ability to apply what you have learned to new situations or to solve new kinds of problems

## High School

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Grades are given for most assigned work

Consistently good homework grades may help you raise your overall grade when test grades are low

Extra credit projects are often available to help you raise your grade

Initial test grades, especially when they are low, may not have an adverse effect on your final grade

You may graduate as long as you have passes required course with a grade of D or higher

## College

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Grades may not be provided for all assigned work

Grades on tests and major papers usually provide most of the course grade

Extra credit projects cannot, generally speaking, be used to raise a grade in a college course

Watch out for your FIRST tests. These are usually “wake up calls” to let you know what is expected, but they also may account for a substantial part of your course grade

You may only graduate if your average in classes meets the department standard (typically a 2.0 or C)

**Thank  
you!**



questions?