Differences between HS and College

Laws are different that govern the services provided to students

I.D.E.A. (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) provides for education for all students regardless of disability in high school

I.D.E.A. is about success

A.D.A. (Americans with Disabilities Act) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act helps level the playing field for students with disabilities in college

A.D.A. is about access, but does not guarantee success
Differences between HS and College Instruction

High School
• Teachers may modify curriculum and alter pace of assignments
• You are expected to read short assignments that are then discussed and often re-taught in class
• You seldom need to read anything more than once, sometimes listening in class is enough

College
• Professors are not required to modify curriculum or alter assignment deadlines
• You are assigned substantial amounts of reading and writing which may not be directly addressed in class
• You need to review class notes, textbooks, and other materials regularly
Differences between HS and College
Modifications vs. Accommodations

High School
- Accreditations and modifications are written into IEP or 504 plan for students
- The resource teacher informs your other teachers regarding the accommodations you require
- Assignments may be modified, i.e. extensions on writing assignments, notes for exams

College
- Accommodations requested by the student are provided on a course by course basis
- You are responsible for informing your instructor(s) that you have academic accommodations through the DRC and follow up with those accommodations throughout the semester
- Accommodations cannot alter the fundamental requirements of the course, i.e. notes for exams, word banks, length of assignments
Differences between HS and College Grades

High School
- Consistently good homework grades may raise your overall grade when test grades are low
- Extra credit projects are often available to help raise your grade
- Initial test grades, especially when they are low, may not have an adverse effect on your final grade

College
- 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 – and may account for a substantial part of your course grade
- Attendance may or may not be included as a grading component
Differences between HS and College Self-Advocacy

High School
- Student is identified by the school and is supported by parents and teachers
- Primary responsibility for arranging accommodations belongs to the school
- Teachers approach you if they believe you need assistance

College
- Student must self-identify to the Disability Resource Center
- Primary responsibility for self-advocacy and arranging accommodations belongs to the student
- Professors are usually open and helpful, but student must initiate contact if assistance is needed
Self-Advocacy

- Disability Consultants will advocate with students as opposed to advocating for students
- Know your disability and learning styles
- Communicate needs and concerns to a DAC and faculty
- Meet with your academic advisor
- Use all existing university resources
Differences between HS and College

Parental Role

High School
• Parent has access to student records and can participate in the accommodation process
• Parent advocates for the student

College
• Parent does not have access to student records without student’s written consent
• Student advocates for self
Why is Self-Determination Important for Students with Disabilities?

- I.D.E.A. does not apply in postsecondary education
- Students must self-disclose their disability and request accommodations
- Allows you to be in control of your situation
Develop Self-Determination and Advocacy Skills

- Actively participate in the development of your IEP
- Develop an understanding of the nature of your disability and how it impacts your learning
- Take college preparatory course work
- Seek out support services such as Vocational Rehabilitation, School Counselors, and College Disability Access Consultants now instead of waiting
How can students with disabilities prepare for college?
Responsibilities of a Qualified Student with a Disability

- Self-identify as an individual with a disability
- Provide comprehensive qualifying disability documentation from an appropriate professional
- Follow specific procedures for obtaining reasonable and effective accommodations, and request accommodations in a timely manner each semester
- Meet the university’s essential technical, academic, and institutional standards
Registration with DRC

• Set up an appointment to meet with a DAC
• Bring disability documentation to your meeting
• Be prepared to discuss
  – Your disability
  – Your past accommodations and what you are hoping for from us
  – Strengths and weaknesses in academic setting
  – Your academic goals
College Admission for Disability Students

- Students are held to the same entrance requirements
- Can appeal a denial
Disability Documentation

- Documentation must be current (within the last three years) and from a qualified (i.e. certified and/or licensed) professional.
- All testing must be done with adult measures (no more than 3 years old).
- IEPs and 504 plans are not acceptable documentation for university purposes, but helpful for determining past accommodations.
- Documentation that is required for registration with the DRC is at the student’s expense.
- Documentation must provide information on specific functional limitations, and demonstrate the need for specific accommodations.
Try it on your own?

- Many students come to college wanting to try and make it on their own
- Excellent goal – we want every student to be as independent as they are able
- Please register with the department anyway
  - We won’t hunt you down or harass you
  - If you find that you need services, you are already set up rather than having to go through the registration process during the semester getting further behind
ASU Support Services

• Available to all students, on all campuses:
  – Learning Support Services – writing and math labs
  – Student Success – success.asu.edu
    • Tutoring and study groups
  – Computer Labs
  – Engineering Math Lab
  – Library
  – ASU Counseling Services
  – Student Health Services
DRC Learning Access Lab

• Assistive Technology - adaptive computers, equipment, and software programs
  – Kurzweil 3000
  – Dragon Naturally Speaking
  – Jaws
  – Zoomtext
  – CCTV
  – Eye-Pal
  – Braille Embosser and Display
Common Accommodations

Common academic accommodations in college may include but are not limited to:

- Testing Accommodations
- In-class Note Taker
- Alternative Print Formats
- Interpreting Services
- Residence Hall Accommodations
Once accepted into TRiO SSS, these services are available to participants up to graduation:

- Peer tutoring and mentoring
- Academic, career, and graduate school advisement
- Success prep workshops
- Technology loan
Questions?