

ADA, Higher Education, and 504

4th Thursday ADA Talks

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Presenters

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Order of Topics

- Rights of college students provided under the ADA and Section 504
- Understanding Roles, Responsibilities, and Routes to Support
 - distinction of roles in accessing supports and services
 - example at UK for students in the College and Career Studies (CCS) program
- Importance of Partnership and Communication in Student Supports
- Disability Resource Center at UK
 - overview of supports, services, and process
 - IDEA vs. ADA (K 12 vs. college)
 - distinction of roles example (DRC and CCS)
 - additional resources and information
- Importance of Self-Advocacy in Accessing Supports in College
- Q&A

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Rights of college students provided under the ADA and Section 504

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Overview of elements covered by the ADA and Section 504 in college

- Accessible facilities
- Service animals
- Equal access and full participation
 - Accommodations and Academic Adjustments
 - Grievance Procedure
 - Auxiliary Aids and Services
 - Technology
 - Non-Academic Services

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Understanding Roles, Responsibilities, and Routes to Support

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Roles and responsibilities of the institution

- Provide architectural access.
- Provide reasonable accommodations (if requested by student).
- Discuss accommodations process, needs, and options with student.

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Roles of the student

- Request accommodations and other services as needed.
- Provide documentation of disability.
- Meet with instructors to discuss accommodations for each class.
- Advocate and communicate about any barriers or other needs.

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Other possible resources for students

- TRIO Funded Programs
- Career Center
- Tutoring services
- Peer mentoring
- Advising
- Academic coaching

The Importance of Partnership and Communication in Student Supports

Accommodations provided under ADA and Section 504

- Just one part of student supports in college.
- It is important to explore other campus resources.
- The institution must provide access, but each student must find the combination of supports and services that will work for them.
 - Requesting accommodations is just the beginning.
- For students getting other supports outside of accommodations, partnership and communication can be helpful.

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Example of partnership at UK: The College and Career Studies (CCS) program and the Disability Resource Center (DRC)

- **CCS is a Comprehensive Transition and Postsecondary (CTP) Program** a non degree program supporting students with intellectual disability. CCS students attend college to take classes of interest, explore career options, and engage in campus and community life.
- **Supports for students in the CCS program are different from the accommodations provided through the Disability Resource Center.** This is an example of why it is important to understand roles and responsibilities in accessing supports in college.
- **CCS students will get some supports from CCS program staff, and accommodations through the DRC.** We have different roles, but we work together to respond to needs of each student.

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overview of supports, services, and process

John Caldora



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Disability Resource Center

Office for Student Success

Multidisciplinary Science Building, Suite 407
Gatton Student Center East Wing, 3rd Floor

Phone: (859) 257 2754

Web: www.uky.edu/drc

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The DRC

- Provides reasonable accommodations to otherwise qualified students with documented disabilities.
- Provides equal access to the educational environment.
- Accommodations cannot fundamentally alter degree requirements.
- Provides consultative services and academic testing services to registered students and faculty.

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Difference Between K-12 and College

K-12

- Operates under IDEA.
- Provides accommodations and modifications.
- Can modify work so student works to their ability.
- Guarantees students will receive some sort of credential (diploma, alternate diploma, certificate of completion, etc.).

Post-Secondary Education

- Operates under ADA.
- Provides reasonable accommodations.
- All students are required to work to the same course standard.
- Students succeed or fail on their own merit.
- Guarantees equal access to the educational environment.

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Differences Between K-12 and College

- In K-12
 - Modifications can change/simplify the information transmitted to and from students and instructors.
- In College
 - Accommodations can only change the method in which information is transmitted, not the information itself.

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Different Laws that Apply in Higher Ed

Sec. 504 of Rehabilitation Act of 1973

- Prohibits disability discrimination against all program and activity participants including students.
- Enforced by U.S. Departments of Education and Justice.
- Can be sued under in federal courts.
 - Typically does not include monetary damages.
- Note that a "504 Plan" from high school will not directly transfer to college.

Titles II and III of ADA

- Prohibits disability discrimination against all program and activity participants including students.
- Title II applies to public schools, Title III applies to private schools.
- Enforced by U.S. Departments of Education and Justice.
- Can be sued under in federal courts
 - May include monetary damages.

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Other Laws to Consider

- Fair Housing Act - Applies to housing
- FERPA
 - Determines that in almost all cases the student must be the person to request accommodations and communicate with the institution and makes decisions about their education.
 - Even if they are under 18.
 - Only major exception is if the student is under a guardianship order.

Common Accommodations

- Extended time on exams (not untimed testing)
- Reduced distraction testing environment (not zero distraction)
- Limited flexibility with attendance and due dates
- Receiving a copy of PowerPoint (does not include instructor notes)
- Audio recording lectures
- Alternate format of course materials and textbooks
- CART-Captioning of courses
- Housing and Parking Accommodations
- Early Registration

How DRC works with College & Career Studies

DRC

- Provides reasonable accommodations that faculty are legally required to abide by.
- Will work with all eligible students at university regardless of admissions type.

CCS

- Can modify assignments for non-credit courses at the discretion of CCS and the instructor.
- Eligible students in program are admitted through a special non-degree process.

Grievance Procedures

- DRC Director
- ADA/504 Coordinator at Institution
- U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights
- U.S. Department of Justice Office of Civil Rights
- Legal Process



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The Importance of Self-Advocacy in Accessing Services in College



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Q&A



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University Center on Disability for Kentucky

Near 60 projects across disability, serving the community, state, and nation.

www.hdi.uky.edu



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Southeast ADA Center

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