

Section 504

Qualification:

A student qualifies under section 504 if:

1. He/she has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities.
 - A limitation is considered substantial when "important life activities are restricted as to the condition, manner, or duration under which they can be performed by most people.
 - Major life activities include: walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, working, breathing, learning, reading, concentrating, thinking, communicating, working and lifting.
2. There is record of such impairment (written diagnosis from a medical doctor).
3. He/she is regarded as having such an impairment following a school evaluation.

Evaluation:

Evaluation refers to the gathering of documented information from a variety of sources to be considered by a group of people who are knowledgeable about the student, the data, and the options available.

A 504 compares:

- a student with his/her peers (A student is compared to others with average achievement at that grade level.)

A 504 does not compare:

- a student to himself/herself (A student's achievement is not compared to his/her ability.)

Accommodation:

Accommodations assure that students have access to an education comparable to that of students without impairments.

Reasonable accommodations do not fundamentally alter the nature of the program.

A 504 compares:

- reasonable accommodations in regard to presentation, response, setting, and timing/scheduling

A 504 does not compare:

- modifications (a change in academic rigor) services
- services
- financial assistance