



# Colleges for Students with Learning Differences



# Levels of College Services



- **Minimal**
- **Standard**
- **Comprehensive**

# Minimal Services

- **Services and Accommodations offered conform to Federal laws.**
- **Students self-advocate.**
- **Tutoring may be available, *but not by special needs specialists.***

<https://www.binghamton.edu/ssd/>

# Standard Services

- **Dedicated student service office is in charge of arrangements.**
- **Limited support services. Tutoring may be available, *may be provided by special needs specialists and readers.***
- **Personal tutoring available at additional cost.**
- **Students may be referred to private services in the community.**

<https://www.muhsenberg.edu/offices/disabilities/>

# Comprehensive Program

- Intense support with trained learning specialists
- Students required to spend time each week in learning centers.
- A fee is often charged in addition to tuition.
- A separate application to the special needs program is required.
- Special arrangements are often made for course selection.

<https://www.marist.edu/student-life/community/accommodations-accessibility/learning-support>

# Questions to Ask a College

**Is there an Orientation program for new students?**

**Is there also an Orientation for new students with disabilities?**

**Is there a summer preparation program? When is it?**

**How do I pick courses and register?**

**Is priority registration available?**

**What is the typical class size?**

# Questions to Ask a College (Cont.)

**Where is the Student Disability Services office on campus?**

**How is it staffed? Full-time? Part-time? Are there evening hours?**

**What kinds of services are available through the Student Disability Services office?**

# Questions to Ask a College (Cont.)

## Documentation of Disability/Accommodations:

What kind of information do I need to provide in order to receive services?

How are accommodations and services obtained?

What are the alternative testing arrangements?

How are note takers and readers made available, selected and arranged?

How are arrangements for sign language interpreters made?

Is there a TDD (telephone device for the deaf) on campus? What is the number? Where is it located?

How do I get textbooks on tape?

How do I arrange for Braille materials?

What is the process for tape recording classes?

How are faculty told about accommodations?

What assistive technology is available or recommended?



# Questions to Ask a College (Cont.)

## Housing:

**Are there physically accessible residence halls including toilet and bathing facilities?**

**How does one make special room arrangements for resident students?**

**Are personal attendants available on campus? If yes, how are they contacted?**

**What are the rules about equipment and electrical use?**

**Your Own Specific Questions**

# Senior Student Checklist

- ✓ **IEP/504 Review**
- ✓ **Take or retake the SATs or ACTs with accommodations.**
- ✓ **Update psycho-educational evaluation. Contact each college to insure that your documentation meets its requirements.**
- ✓ **Research postsecondary options ranging from levels of competitiveness and levels of LD support.**
- ✓ **Discuss your options with your guidance counselor and parents.**



## Senior Student Checklist (cont)

- ✓ **Select several colleges that are “safeties” for admission and several reasonable reaches.**
- ✓ **Arrange in advance for campus visits and interviews.**
- ✓ **Meet with the LD Coordinator and the Admission Office. These will be two separate meetings.**
- ✓ **Consider sitting in on a class or meeting other college students with learning disabilities who can share their experiences.**
- ✓ **Find out who is responsible for assisting students with learning disabilities at the institution of your choice and make contact prior to attending.**



# Resources

**K& W Guide to Colleges for Learning Disabled. 5th Ed. A Resource Book for Students, Parents and Professionals. Marybeth Kravets**

**Peterson's College For Students with Learning Disabilities or ADD**

**ADD and The College Student. A Guide for High School and College Students with Attention Deficit Disorder. Edited by Patricia Quinn, M.D.**

**Survival Guide for College Students with ADD or LD. Kathleen G. Nadeau, PH.D**

# Helpful Websites

[www.ldonline.org](http://www.ldonline.org)

[www.heath.gwu.edu](http://www.heath.gwu.edu)

[www.ahead.org](http://www.ahead.org)

[www.ccdanet.org](http://www.ccdanet.org)