



Students with Disabilities Rights and Responsibilities

As you transition from high school to college you might wonder how will I be treated differently as a student with a disability.

The K-12 school system is under the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and college is under the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504.

While Co-enrolled at Charlotte Technical College, a student with a disability with have a 504 or IEP from the high school. Students may be tested for their disability by school psychologists with certification in the field.

As a post-secondary student (no longer enrolled in high school), students must secure their own documentation from a licensed professional and pay for the cost of the testing.

Please see the chart below to compare rights and responsibilities between high school and college.

	IDEA (K-12)	504 (K-12/College)	ADA (College/Employment)
Law Application	Applies to public schools (preschool –high school)	Applies to any school receiving federal financial assistance.	Applies to public or private schools.
Purpose	Ensures free and appropriate public education for children with disabilities.	Ensures that students with disabilities have an opportunity to access education to the greatest extent possible.	Ensures individuals with disabilities have equal access to programs and services.
Coverage	Children between the ages of 3-21 that require special education services because of a disability.	Any person with a physical or mental impairment that noticeably limits one or more life activities.	Any person with a physical or mental impairment that noticeably limits one or more life activities.
Identification and Documentation	The school system has the responsibility to find and identify children with disabilities. The evaluation of children with disabilities is at the cost of the school district not the family.	Students with disabilities must self-report. The student has the responsibility of providing the documentation and bears the cost. The student is responsible for advocacy and negotiating the accommodations plan.	Students with disabilities must self-report. The student must provide the necessary documentation and the student is responsible for the cost.
Education Plans	The school district develops an IEP and tracks students’ progress.	Accommodation plan developed with post-secondary institution and student. Reasonable accommodations based on student’s individual case.	Reasonable accommodations are provided based on each students’ individual case.

The School Board shall comply with all federal laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination and with all requirements and regulations of the U.S. Department of Education. No administrative staff member or candidate for such a position in this District shall, on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation, transgender status, or gender identity), age, gender, pregnancy, marital status, disability, or legally-protected characteristic, be discriminated against, excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to, discrimination in any program or activity for which the Board is responsible or for which it receives financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Education, Policy 1122

Charlotte Technical College full-time programs are approved for education and training by the Veteran’s State Approval Agency. Veterans and Dependents of Disabled or Deceased Veterans who plan to attend full-time programs at CTC should contact Students Services located in Building A.