



Educational Differences Between High School and College

This information sheet highlights some of the differences students experience between high school and college.

K-12 Experience for Students with Disabilities: Education is mandatory and free

Teacher responsibilities:

- trained to teach
- adapt materials to student's learning style
- helps student learn and process information
- checks students work
- reviews assignments and due dates
- reminds student of incomplete work
- structures time for students
- initiates help sessions
- available for talks before and after class
- provides parental support
- teacher advocates for student

Student responsibilities:

- attends class
- learns self-advocacy skills

University Experience for Students with Disabilities: Education is voluntary and expensive

Teacher responsibilities:

- trained as an expert in subject, not as a teacher
- holds office hours
- may only lecture/talk for the duration of class
- waits for student to ask for help
- does not check homework or student's work
- may not remind students of due dates

Student responsibilities:

- needs to think about and synthesize what is being discussed/taught
- takes responsibility for self
- accepts consequences of own decisions
- gets course material from syllabus
- often gets homework assignments from syllabus
- manages own time
- needs to take notes
- needs to ask for help sessions
- attends professors office hours
- provides information to parents
- advocates for self

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