

## **T. Scott Smith Consulting**

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# **Understanding Your Rights and Responsibilities as a College Student with a Disability**

*Educational Brochure for College Students*

## **Overview**

As a college student with a disability, you have legal rights that protect your access to education. Colleges are required to provide reasonable accommodations under federal law, including the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. These laws ensure equal access, but they also place responsibility on the student.

Understanding both your rights and your responsibilities will help you use accommodations effectively, communicate with campus offices, and advocate for yourself in academic and future employment settings.

## **Your Rights and Responsibilities**

- You have the right to reasonable academic accommodations
- You are responsible for disclosing your disability to the disability services office
- You must request accommodations and follow campus procedures
- You are responsible for communicating with professors about approved accommodations
- You are expected to meet academic standards with accommodations in place

## **Student Checklist**

- ✓ Register with disability services as early as possible
- ✓ Submit required documentation on time
- ✓ Review your accommodation letters each semester
- ✓ Communicate with professors early and professionally
- ✓ Ask questions if accommodation processes are unclear

## Recommendations for Students

Being proactive and informed helps you take full advantage of available supports. Keep copies of important documents, track deadlines, and practice explaining your needs clearly. These self-advocacy skills are valuable not only in college, but also in the workplace and adult life.

## For More Information

For individualized guidance, transition planning, or vocational rehabilitation services related to college students with autism, please contact:

**Dr. T. Scott Smith**

Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor

[collegeandautism.com](http://collegeandautism.com)

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