

THE TRANSITION TO COLLEGE





Choices

HELLO!

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Transition Coordinator

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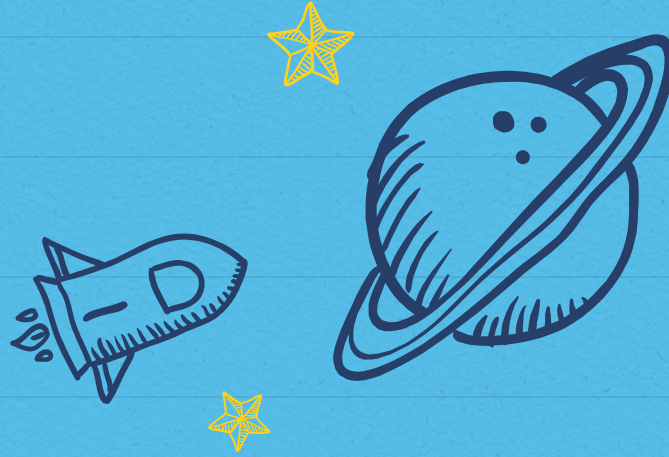
High School Counselor



AGENDA

- x Differences Between High School & College
- x Types of College Supports
- x College Application Process
- x College Disability Services





HIGH SCHOOL VS COLLEGE



DIFFERENCE IN THE LAW

HIGH SCHOOL

- Schools Responsibility
- LRE, quality, free
- Individualized Planning
- Related Services
- Transition Planning

COLLEGE

- Individual Responsibility
- Focus on Accommodations
- Focus on non-discrimination and undue hardship



CHANGES IN SERVICES

- ✕ Student transitions from an IDEA to ADA

- ✗ The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) ends after high school, meaning IEPs do not exist in college.
- ✗ Colleges are governed by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which focus on equal access rather than special education.

- ✗ No more case management

Students must self-identity

✖ Pay for services in some cases



PARENT/
SUPPORT
PERSON

Responsibility for CF Care

PROVIDING
& TEACHING



DEPENDENT

MANAGING

ENGAGING

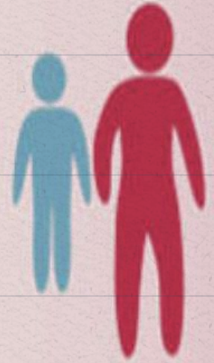
DELEGATING &
MONITORING

MANAGING

LEADING

ASSISTING

OWNING



SUPPORTING

School Age
(Ages 6-9)

Late Elementary
& Middle School
(Ages 10-12)

Early High School
(Ages 13-15)

Late High School
(Ages 16-18)

Early Adulthood
(Ages 18-25)



SELF ADVOCACY IN TRANSITION

High School

Students learn about their disability, strengths and weaknesses with support of school staff and parents

College

Students must self identify, describe the disability, identify strengths and weaknesses, identify accommodations needed and become a competent self advocate



FROM MANAGING TO ADVISING YOUR CHILD'S LIFE



When your teen says:

*"I have a "D" in Math
and the teacher hates
me."*



Avoid Saying (The Manager)

*"I am emailing your
teacher right now to see
what's going on."*



Say Instead (The Consultant)

*"That sounds stressful. What
do you think is causing the
drop, and when can you talk
to them to get extra help?"*



FROM MANAGING TO ADVISING YOUR CHILD'S LIFE



When your teen says:

"I forgot my history binder on the kitchen counter."



Avoid Saying (The Manager)

"I'll drive it over to the school office during my lunch break."



Say Instead (The Consultant)

"Oh no, that's tough. How are you going to manage class today without it?"



FROM MANAGING TO ADVISING YOUR CHILD'S LIFE



When your teen says:

"I have so much homework, I'm never going to finish."



Avoid Saying (The Manager)

"Sit down right now. Do math first, then history, and turn off your phone."



Say Instead (The Consultant)

"It looks like you're feeling overwhelmed. Do you want to look at your planner together and map out a timeline?"



STUDENT AS ADULT

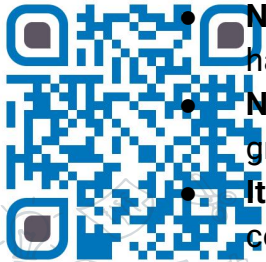
- x Students are considered adults
- x Privacy required for FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)
 - x K-12~Parents hold all FERPA Rights
 - x 18 years old, rights transfer entirely to student
 - x The student owns their college records; parents need permission to see them



FERPA ~ WHAT ACTUALLY CHANGES

- **Access opens up:**
The designated people can now call, email, or meet with school officials to discuss things like **grades, GPA, class schedules, and academic standing.**
- **Financial discussion is allowed:** It allows the financial aid or billing office to talk directly with parents about tuition, bills, and scholarships.
- **Disciplinary visibility:** The school can share information regarding campus disciplinary actions or code of conduct violations.

What it Does NOT Mean



- **No loss of ownership:** The student **retains all rights** to their records. Signing a waiver does not hand over control or decision-making power to the parents.
- **Not an all-access pass:** The student can choose to share *only* financial records while keeping grades private, or vice versa.
- **It is not permanent:** Students can change their minds and revoke the permission at any time by contacting the registrar's office.

IS THERE A DIFFERENCE IN REQUIREMENTS WITH COLLEGE ADMISSION AS MY CHILD HAS AN IEP OR

504 PLAN?

As a rule, No! But there are exceptions! Hold tight!



WHAT SKILLS ARE REQUIRED FOR COLLEGE?

- ✗ Strong self-motivation in college prep courses
- ✗ Understanding of learning style, including an awareness of academic strengths and weaknesses
- ✗ Ability to function independently in the academic environment. There are no modifications in college
- ✗ Independence in seeking assistance and support



QUESTIONS STUDENT SHOULD ASK THEMSELVES

- ✗ Why do I want to attend college?
- ✗ Is my curriculum really preparing me for college?
- ✗ How much time is spent on studying?
- ✗ What independent living skills am I lacking?
- ✗ How much support am I currently using?
- ✗ What am I investing?



TESTING

- ✗ Since COVID, many schools are test optional.
- ✗ All students will test with their high school in April typically junior year.
- ✗ Tests can be digital or paper
- ✗ Illinois uses ACT!



WHEN TYPICAL COLLEGE ISN'T THE RIGHT CHOICE



COMPREHENSIVE TRANSITION AND POST-SECONDARY PROGRAMS

- ✗ Contained facility or separate facility on traditional campus
- ✗ Small classes and selected faculty
- ✗ Focus on basic skills review, independent living skills
- ✗ Certificate Program
- ✗ Vocational Component



LOCAL OPTIONS

- ✕ Career Skills Institute (Harper College)
- ✕ ELSA (Elmhurst College)
- ✕ PACE (National Louis University)
- ✕ Lancer Explore Institute (College of Lake County)
- ✕ RISE (Judson University)

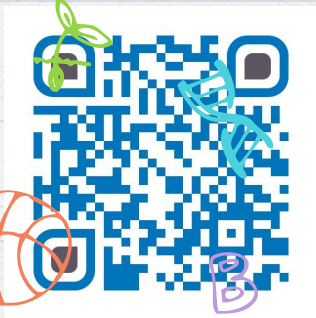


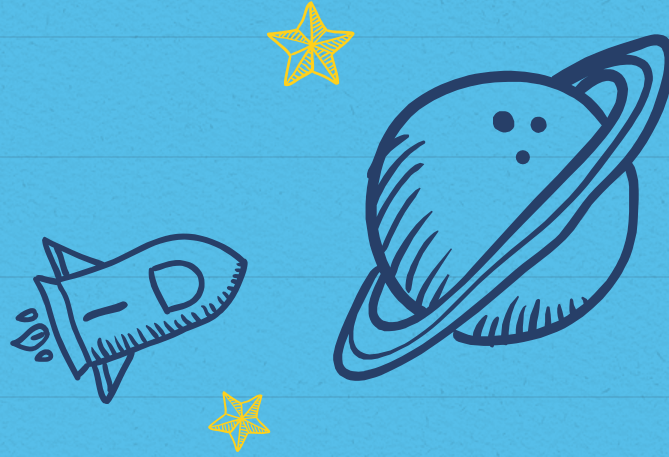
NON-LOCAL OPTIONS

- ✕ Chapel Haven - Connecticut
- ✕ College Internship Program - Multiple Locations
- ✕ Life Development Institute - Phoenix, AZ
- ✕ Minnesota Independence College & Community - Richfield, Minnesota
- ✕ Reach Program - University of Iowa
- ✕ Riverview School GROW Program - Massachusetts



MIDDLE CIRCLE!



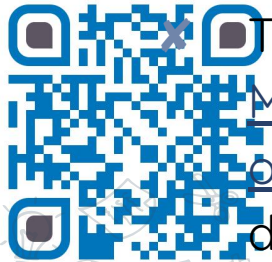


TYPES OF COLLEGE SERVICES



2 YEAR COLLEGE OPTIONS

- ✕ Technical Schools - Vocational/Certificates
- ✕ Community College
 - ✕ Certificate Programs
 - ✕ Associate Degrees
- ✕ 2 Year Colleges with Residential Options
 - ✕ Kirkwood Community College- Iowa
 - ✕ Parkland College- Champaign



Tiger Pathways is a co-enrollment bridge program between Moberly Area Community College (MACC) and the University of Missouri (Mizzou) designed for students who did not meet direct admission requirements

LEVELS OF SUPPORT

✕ Accommodations Only

- ~~X~~ Students arrange the support
- ~~X~~ Academic support is not centralized

✖ Comprehensive Programs

- X Separate Application/Possible Fee
- X Regular Scheduled Meetings

Certified Providers

✦ Specific Colleges for Students with Disabilities

Beacon College

Landmark College



ACCOMMODATIONS

- ✗ There is usually a centralized hub for disability services
- ✗ Academic supports are not centralized
- ✗ Students arrange accommodations with their professors
- ✗ If on IEP in high school does not translate to college



ACCOMMODATIONS

- ✕ Structure for providing services
- ✕ Designated office in charge of making arrangements
- ✕ Tutoring may be available by LD Specialist or Peer/subject tutors supervised by director
- ✕ Learning specialist often coordinates services



COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES

Fee for Service

Separate application

Study Skills Strategies

Personalized Attention

Time requirements for studying

Regular scheduled meetings with staff



SCHOOLS WITH FULL SERVICE PROGRAMS

- University of Arizona (SALT)
- University of Denver (LEP)
- University of Indianapolis (BUILD)
- Loras College (Enhanced)
- Lynn University (Institute for Achievement and Learning)
- Southern Illinois University (ACHIEVE Program)
- University of Wisconsin - Oshkosh (Project Success)



COLLEGE PROGRAMS FOR NEURODIVERGENT STUDENTS

Aurora University - Pathways Program

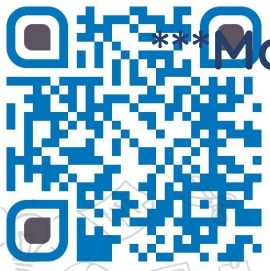
Marquette - On Your Marq

Harper Community College - Initiatives Program

Southern Illinois University - ACHIEVE

Eastern Illinois - STEP

*****Mansfield Hall - Madison, WI, Bend, OR**



Marquette - On Your Marq

Southern Illinois University - ACHIEVE

Mansfield Hall - Madison, WI, Bend, OR



COUNSELING SUPPORT @ THE COLLEGE LEVEL

Crisis Intervention (3 sessions)- Varies by school

Linkages to Community Providers

SOME Colleges will provide:

- ✕ Weekly Meetings
- ✕ Social Groups

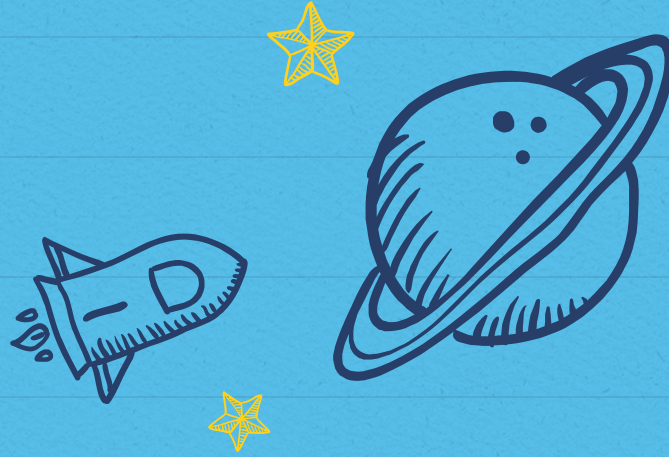


SPECIALIZED COLLEGES FOR STUDENTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES

Landmark College (Vermont)

Beacon College (Florida)





COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS



BEGINNING THE SEARCH



FACTORS:

- Size
- Location
- Majors/Programs
- Schools That Match the ACT/SAT and GPA

NARROWING THE SEARCH

- ✗ What is the best type of setting for the student?
 - ✗ Class size/Teacher ratio
- ✗ Academic Support available to ALL students
- ✗ Disability Support - what is available and is the student willing to access the supports



NARROWING THE SEARCH

- ✗ Is the student ready socially?
- ✗ Does the student possess the independence required? (Waking up on time?)
- ✗ Mental health/Medical supports



APPLY TO COLLEGE FIRST, ACCOMMODATIONS SECOND



PERSONAL STATEMENT/DISCLOSURE

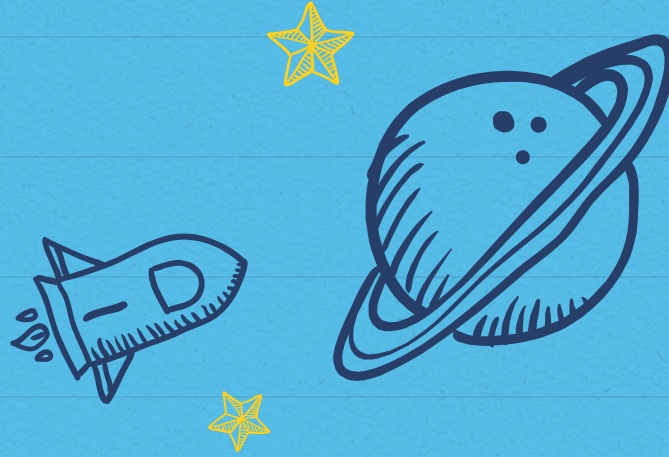
- ✗ Voluntary
- ✗ Disclose during application or after acceptance?
- ✗ Additional Information rather than topic of essay
- ✗ Provide Context for Admissions
- ✗ Explain nature of disability and its impact
- ✗ Highlights growth
- ✗ Addresses anticipated support needs



ALTERNATE OPTIONS

- ✕ Post-grad year
- ✕ Gap Year [www.https://www.gooverseas.com](https://www.gooverseas.com)





APPLYING FOR ACCOMMODATIONS



COLLEGE DISABILITY SERVICES

- ✗ Students needs to contact the Disability/Accessibility Services Office to arrange an intake appointment
- ✗ Send documentation in advance
- ✗ Be prepared to share strengths/weaknesses and accommodations



DOCUMENTATION

- ✗ Student Self Report
- ✗ Documentation
 - ✗ IEP or 504
 - ✗ Psychoeducational Testing/File Reviews
 - ✗ Doctor's Notes
 - ✗ Summary of Performance
 - ✗ Observation/Interaction



DOCUMENTATION SHOULD INCLUDE

- ✗ A disability diagnosis
- ✗ How the disability manifests itself within the academic environment
- ✗ Based upon the impact of the disability, what accommodation(s) could be introduced that will lessen the impact of the disability within the academic setting?



TYPICAL ACCOMMODATIONS IN THE COLLEGE ENVIRONMENT

- ✗ Digital Textbooks
- ✗ Assistive Technology
- ✗ Extended Test Time/Alternative Testing
- ✗ Note takers
- ✗ Quiet Test Room
- ✗ Reader for Exams
- ✗ Sign language interpreters
- ✗ Use of Calculator/Computer



DIFFERENCES BETWEEN HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE

- ✕ High School: Students may have the ability to have requirements waived such as foreign language or complete less test questions
- ✕ College: All students, regardless of disability status are expected to meet the same requirements of a particular class or program of study



Modified classes and assignments do not exist at the college level!

ADVOCACY

Student must self identify, speak with professors, request accommodations.

Start working on this now!

- ✗ Email teachers
- ✗ Ask for accommodations
- ✗ Active participation in IEP Meetings



RESOURCES

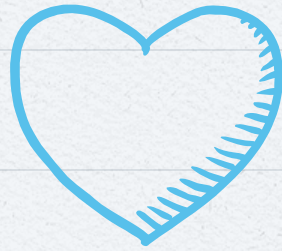
CHOICES Website www.postsecondarychoices.org

- ✕ College Presentations
- ✕ College Search
- ✕ Resource Booklet



"PICKING A COLLEGE IS LIKE PICKING A SPOUSE.
YOU DON'T PICK THE "TOP RANKED" ONE, BECAUSE
THAT HAS NO MEANING. YOU PICK THE ONE WITH
THE PERSONALITY AND CHARACTER THAT
COMPLEMENTS YOUR OWN"





THANKS!

Any questions?

