

# How to get Accommodations for Dyslexia in College & Strategies for Success

## How College is Different from High School

- Receiving accommodations in high school doesn't mean you automatically receive them in college. IEPs and 504 Plans do not carry over to colleges.
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the ADA apply to colleges. The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) does not.
- You must contact the disability office. If you don't, they won't know you need accommodations.
- You must advocate for yourself. Parents can't do it for you.

## Strategies for Accessing your Accommodations

- Contact the disability services office to set up your accommodations over the summer, well before classes begin.
- Ensure all paperwork is submitted.
- Speak directly to your professors about your accommodations before classes start. Submitting a video of yourself can be helpful.
- Follow up with the disability services office if professors are reluctant to provide accommodations.

## Other Strategies for Success

- Use the accommodations available to you. They're there to help you!
- Get the most out of lectures by recording them, if they aren't pre-recorded.
- Build relationships with your professors. Go to office hours and talk to them regularly to let them know what's working and what's not. Show them how hard you're trying.
- Build relationships with other students. Form study groups to orally review materials. Share notes.
- Develop good study habits. Use a planner or calendar. Find quiet places without distractions to study.
- Go to your school's Writing Lab for help with editing papers and Math Lab.
- Find out if your school offers tutoring. This may even be free.
- Take care of yourself. Make sure you get enough sleep, exercise, eat healthy, and have some fun.

## Helpful Resources

- [National Center for Learning Disabilities](#)
- [Understood.org](#)
- [University of Michigan's Dyslexia Help website](#)

## Helpful Apps

- [NaturalReader](#)
- [TechSmith Capture](#)
- [iStudiez Pro](#)
- [Quizlet](#)
- [Sparknotes](#)
- [More here](#)

## How to Qualify for Accommodations in College

- Contact the disabilities services office as soon as possible.
- You must provide the disability services office with evidence of the disability.
- Schedule diagnostic testing if your school requires a recent diagnosis.
- The disability services office decides what accommodations and services are warranted.
- The disability services office notifies professors of the accommodations a student is to receive, but does not disclose the disability.

## Examples of Accommodations

- Extended time on tests
- Other test accommodations (separate location, verbal tests)
- Note takers or scribes
- Converting textbooks or course packs into audio recordings
- Alternative way of completing assignments (oral presentation instead of a paper)
- Audio recordings of lectures
- Early course registration
- Preferential seating



This information is not meant to be exhaustive, nor is it to be taken as legal guidance.