

Name

Date

## Legal Rights and Responsibilities

While you are in high school and have a diagnosed disability, you are protected under the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). You are also provided free, appropriate public education under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. However, these provisions don't apply to post-secondary students. Adults are given other legal rights under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans With Disabilities Act.

As you consider your post-secondary school options, you need to know that you cannot be denied admission to college or trade school because you have a disability. However, you must meet all of the admissions requirements for entrance. Therefore, make sure that the courses you have taken and are currently taking meet the admissions requirements. There is a difference between modified courses and courses you receive modifications and accommodations in. Courses that are modified to the extent that the course outcomes are changed may not be accepted at some post-secondary schools.

After you are accepted at a post-secondary school, you don't have to inform the school that you have a disability. However, if you need academic adjustments/modifications you must inform the school that you have a disability and you must provide documentation showing that you have a current disability and need an academic adjustment.

Post-secondary schools must make sure that you are not being discriminated against if you have a disability. If you feel you are being discriminated against, you need to contact the person at the school who is responsible for the school's compliance to Section 504. You will generally find out whom to contact and how to file a complaint/grievance in a post-secondary catalog.

Information obtained from U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, Students With Disabilities  
Preparing for Post-Secondary Education: Know Your Rights and Responsibilities, Washington, D.C., 2002

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## Rights and Responsibilities Quiz

1. What two laws protect your rights when you are in high school if you have a disability?

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2. What two laws protect your rights when you are an adult if you have a disability?

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3. *True or False.* You can be denied admission to a post-secondary school because you have a disability.

4. To be able to attend a post-secondary school, you must meet all of the \_\_\_\_\_ requirements.

5. What type of course may not be accepted at a post-secondary school?

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6. *True or False.* You must inform a post-secondary school that you have a disability.

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7. If you need academic adjustments/modifications, what must you provide the post-secondary school?

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8. Whom should you contact if you feel you are being discriminated against at a post-secondary school?

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9. Where should you look to find out how to file a discrimination complaint/grievance at a post-secondary school?

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