Major Differences Between High School and Postsecondary Disability Services

High School	Postsecondary Education
Applicable Laws	
IDEA (federal disability law)Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act	ADA - Americans with Disabilities ActSection 504 of Rehabilitation Act
Required Documentation	
 IEP (Individual Education Program) School provides evaluation at no cost to student School retests at least every 3 years 	 Varies depending upon the disability, and must include testing documentation Student must provide the evaluation at his/her own expense Student provides retesting
Student Role	
 Student is identified by school School sets up accommodations and individual goals 	 Student self-identifies to Disability Services Office Student is responsible for requesting/securing accommodations
Parental Role	
 Access to student records Participation in deciding accommodations and goals Must give consent for services 	 No access to student records without the student's written consent Student request accommodations Student is self-advocate
Instructors	
 Modification of curriculum permitted Use of multi-sensory approach allowed Weekly testing, mid-term, final, and graded assignments, progress reporting 	 Not required to modify Multi-sensory not required. Lecture is predominant. Fewer tests and assignments
Grades	
May be based on modified or general curriculum	Grades reflect the quality of work submitted

Document adapted form Blue Ridge Community College, 11/2000

PARTNERS RESOURCE NETWORK PartnersTX.org 1.800.866.4726



The contents of this factsheet were developed under a grant from the US Department of Education, #H328M150022, #H328M150023, #H328M150024. However, those contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the US Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government. Project Officer, Greg Knollman.