ADA & FERPA: LAWS TO KNOW

ADA: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) - law that stops discrimination and ensures equal opportunities for people with disabilities in employment and public services.

FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act): Protects students’ right to be private and confidential about college.

THE BASICS

Academic accommodations are supports you can ask for and are provided based on disability-related needs under sections 504 and 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

For more information about accommodations please see video: https://bit.ly/2SVC7hi

ACCOMMODATIONS PROCESS - START EARLY!

- Students must contact the Disability Services office, self-identify as a student with a disability and make a request for disability-related accommodations.
- Most colleges require students to:
  - Complete an application.
  - Submit disability verification documentation.
  - Attend an appointment.

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- Do they have other students with the same needs as me?
- Is what I have described a possibility with this campus?
- Can they see a student like me succeeding on this campus with the disability office’s support?
- Do I sense acceptance here?
- Am I comfortable here?
- Are they respectful, and do they take me seriously?
- Is this campus too big, small, far, or is there some other problem?

TYPES OF ACCOMMODATIONS

Once the student registers with the disability services office, the accommodation requests can be approved and put in place. Professors will then be notified about how to support you as their student. Some supports include: note-taker, extra time for tests, early registration, digital books, audio text, preferred seating, tape lectures, quiet testing room, breaks as needed and other help you may need.
A basic guideline introducing you to asking for support to go to college when you have a disability.

For more information, please visit:
www.selfadvocacyinfo.org

Brochure created by Samuel Capozzi with thanks to The Self Advocacy Resource and Technical Assistance Center (SARTAC) and The Autism and Communication Center at California Lutheran University.