Differences Between High School and College

After High School, the Rules Change

Laws and Responsibilities

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| High School  | Postsecondary  |
| Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE).  | Section 504 and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) - Accessibility and reasonable accommodations.  |
| Covers students until completion of high school graduation requirements.  | Covers students with disabilities regardless of age; schools may not discriminate in recruitment, admission, or after admission, solely on the basis of a disability.  |
| School attendance is mandatory  | Students decide to attend and will pay tuition.  |
| Districts are required to identify students with disabilities through assessment & the Individualized Education Program (IEP) process.  | Students are responsible for revealing and providing current documentation of a disability. They must be self advocates.  |
| Students receive special education and related servic­es to address needs based on an identified disability.  | Formal special education services are not available.  |
| Services include individually designed instruction, modification, and accommodations based on the IEP.  | Reasonable accommodations may be made to provide equal access and participation.  |
| Individual student’s needs, based on the IEP, may be addressed by program support or school personnel.  | No formal program support for school personnel is provided.  |
| Progress toward IEP goals is monitored and commu­nicated to the parents and/or the student.  | Students are required to monitor their own progress and communicate their needs to instructors.  |
| Schools assist in connecting the student with com­munity support agencies to support transition needs as identified in the IEP.  | Students are responsible for making their own connections with community support agencies. |