Disability Resource Center

Higher Education and Students With Disabilities
What is a Disability?
The **Americans with Disabilities Act** defines a person with a disability as:

1. Having a physical or mental impairment that **substantially limits** one or more major life activities

2. Having a record of such an **impairment**
K-12 Accommodations
Academics

- Assignment modifications
- Flexible due dates
- Extended testing time, space, readers, scribes
- Study notes provided by teacher
- Accommodations are automatically applied
IEP and 504

• Regularly scheduled meetings

• Official format or record

• Automatically shared with all teachers
Self-Advocacy

- Identification by parents and educators
- School responsible for arranging accommodations
- Instructor will outreach to student
Higher Education Accommodations
Academics

• Cannot alter the fundamental requirements of the course

• Accommodations are requested on a course by course basis
Reasonable Accommodation

• Individualized and dependent on impact of the disability and course

• Ensures physical and learning access
Unreasonable Accommodation

- Alters the fundamental nature of the course or program
- Impose undue financial or administrative burden
- Poses direct threat to personal or public safety
Self-Advocacy

• The student must self identify

• The student must request the accommodations

• Accommodations are NOT automatically applied each semester
Transition Tips
Access Tips

• Participate in IEP meetings
• Read and understand disability documentation
• Understand the impact of the disability
• Register EARLY with Disability Services Office
• Communicate regularly and early with disability staff and faculty
Success Tips

- Use all resources available at the institution
- Know your learning style
- Use caution with online and hybrid courses
- Leave time between classes when scheduling
There’s more to college than going to class!

5 Key Non-Academic Areas

- Student Organizations
- On-campus living
- Responsible Social Media
- Campus Employment
- On-Campus Health and Wellness
Questions?

Thank you!