



Rights & Accommodations Guide

Because every student deserves access, dignity, and support—no exceptions

Key Laws That Protect Students

IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)

- Ensures eligible students receive a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE)
- Provides access to special education services through an IEP
- Requires schools to meet each child's unique learning needs

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act

- Protects students with disabilities from discrimination
- Offers accommodations through a 504 Plan (even if they don't qualify for an IEP)
- Applies to all public schools and federally funded programs

ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act)

- Guarantees equal access to school facilities, programs, and activities
- Extends protections beyond K–12 into college, employment, and public life

Common Accommodations

Area	Examples
Academics	Extended time, modified assignments, quiet testing
Communication	Speech-to-text, visual aids, sign language support
Physical Access	Elevator use, seating arrangements, mobility aids
Sensory Needs	Noise-canceling headphones, fidget tools, breaks
Emotional Support	Counseling access, safe spaces, check-ins
Executive Function	Task lists, reminders, organizational help

💡 **Reminder:** Accommodations are not “special treatment”—they’re tools for equity.

Advocacy Tips for Families

-  **Document Everything:** Keep records of meetings, plans, and communication
-  **Know Your Rights:** You can request evaluations, meetings, and revisions
-  **Be Specific:** Describe how your child’s needs affect learning and what helps
-  **Collaborate:** Build relationships with teachers and staff
-  **Speak Up:** If something isn’t working, you have the right to ask for change

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