

# 504 Accommodations in High School

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# Does my child need a 504?

- Have a conversation with your child's high school counselor
- Connect with your child's teachers to solicit feedback
- 504 coordinator works closely with the counselor and teachers
- If it is suspected that a student has a disability and may need accommodations to access programs and activities in FCPS, a referral can be made to the Local Screening Committee (*contact your counselor to discuss this process*)

# 504 Process

- At the beginning of each school year, the 504 coordinator updates all teachers with information about their students' plans (*note - if your child has more extensive accommodations, it is recommended that you contact your child's teachers directly to share that information*).
- 504 plans are reviewed annually, and every three years for a triennial reevaluation to determine eligibility. Accommodations are then set in place for the next calendar year until the next annual meeting.
- Collaboration of 504 Knowledgeable Committee (principal/designee-504 coordinator, teacher, counselor, student, parents) determines appropriate high school accommodations. Teachers send in feedback prior to the meeting if they are unable to attend.
- Students are strongly encouraged to attend 504 meetings! Students have an important voice in developing their own 504 plans.
- If new information is obtained through private testing, please contact the 504 coordinator to discuss doing a reevaluation to update qualifications.

# Communication and Self-Advocacy

- Communication is key! Communicate early on in the year regarding any additional needs or changes.
- Encourage students to talk to or email their teachers and counselor to advocate for themselves!

# Accommodations- Middle School vs. High School

- Some accommodations may change when in high school (not all accommodations appropriate for middle school are applicable in high school).
- Adding or changing accommodations is a decision made by the knowledgeable committee. Accommodations may change or reduce as high school progresses.
- College Board accommodations are a separate application process (i.e. for SATs, PSATs, and AP exams). Plan ahead! This takes several weeks (6-8) to get approved

# Accommodations- Beyond High School

- Accommodations for dual enrollment are a separate process. If you are taking classes through NOVA you need to apply for their accommodations.
- You can request 504 accommodations in college, but it is a separate process and the student is responsible for setting it up. Visit the college's Office of Disability Services to do this (information is usually available online too).
- Accommodations can vary by college/university
- If it has been awhile since your child has been evaluated, it is recommended that you get updated evals from your doctor (many colleges will ask for this).