

Examples of Possible Section 504 Accommodations

Below is information and samples of 504 accommodation plans for specific disabilities. These are meant to be general guidelines. Each student's needs should be considered individually.

Bipolar Disorder

EXAMPLE: The student was diagnosed as having a bipolar disorder, however the severity (frequency, intensity, duration considerations) of the condition did not qualify the student for IDEA. A properly convened 504 committee determined that the condition did significantly impair the major life activity of learning and fashioned a 504 plan for the student. Here are some possible accommodations for this scenario.



Possible Accommodations and Services:

- ☐ Break down assignments into manageable parts with clear and simple directions, given one at a time
- ☐ Plan advanced preparation for transitions
- ☐ Monitor clarity of understanding and alertness
- ☐ Allow most difficult subjects at times when student is most alert
- ☐ Provide extra time on tests, class work, and homework if needed
- ☐ Strategies in place for unpredictable mood swings
- ☐ Provide appropriate staff with training on bipolar disorder
- ☐ Create awareness by staff of potential victimization from other students
- ☐ Implement a crisis intervention plan for extreme cases where student gets out of control and may do something impulsive or dangerous
- ☐ Provide positive praise and redirection
- ☐ Provide 1-1 instruction
- ☐ Report any suicidal comments to counselor/psychologist immediately
- ☐ Consider home instruction for times when the student's mood disorder makes it impossible for him to attend school for an extended period

Drugs and Alcohol

EXAMPLE: The student has used drugs and alcohol for many years. This problem has affected the major life activities of learning and caring for oneself. The student is presently not using drugs or alcohol and is in a rehabilitation program. If the student is not using drugs or alcohol, he or she could qualify for accommodations or services under Section 504.

Possible Accommodations and Services:

- ☐ Provide copies of texts and assignments to treatment facility
- ☐ Arrange for periodic home-school contacts daily/weekly assignments monitoring system
- ☐ Communicate with treatment facility; pursue transition services available through the treatment facility
- ☐ Provide/arrange for counseling
- ☐ Establish peer support group
- ☐ Dismiss from school for treatment without punitive measures
- ☐ Ensure strong link with school counselor
- ☐ Arrange for access to treatment at private or public facilities.
- ☐ Integrate a student assistance program into the classroom
- ☐ In-service faculty/staff with parent/student permission
- ☐ Provide post-secondary or vocational transition planning
- ☐ Provide ongoing support around chemical dependency in conjunction with other agencies
- ☐ Train for proper dispensing of medications; monitor and/or distribute medications; monitor for side effects

Emotional Disturbance

EXAMPLE: An emotionally disturbed student may need an adjusted class schedule to allow time for regular counseling or therapy. For purposes of this example, the condition substantially limits the individual's major life activity of learning.

Possible Accommodations and Services:

- ☐ Train for proper dispensing of medications; monitor and/or distribute medications; monitor for side effects
- ☐ Maintain weekly/daily journals for self-recording of behavior
- ☐ Establish home-school communication system
- ☐ Schedule periodic meetings with home and treatment specialists
- ☐ Provide carry-over of treatment plans into school environment
- ☐ Assist with inter-agency referrals
- ☐ Utilize behavior management programs
- ☐ Develop contracts for student behavior
- ☐ Post rules for classroom behaviors; teach expectations
- ☐ Provide counseling, social skills instruction
- ☐ Reinforce replacement behaviors
- ☐ Educate other students/staff/school personnel
- ☐ Foster carryover of treatment plans to home environment
- ☐ Reinforce positive behavior
- ☐ Schedule shorter study/work periods according to attention span capabilities
- ☐ Be consistent in setting expectations and following up on reinforcements/consequences
- ☐ Provide post-secondary or vocational transition planning

Weight: Diagnosis of Obesity, Anorexia, and Bulimia

EXAMPLE: A student has an extreme eating disorder that may require special accommodations. Obesity may be considered a disability under Section 504 where it substantially impairs a major life activity or is regarded by others as doing so.

Possible Accommodations and Services:

- ☐ Provide special seating modifications
- ☐ Make dietary modifications per physician recommendation
- ☐ Adapt physical education program per physician recommendation
- ☐ Allow extra time to get to classes
- ☐ Educate peers
- ☐ Adapt rest rooms
- ☐ Provide opportunities for socialization and peer counseling/interaction
- ☐ Ensure privacy for self-care
- ☐ Provide counseling involving the area nurse
 - Provide for elevator privileges per physician's recommendation
- ☐ Arrange for counselor/area nurse to supervise peer counseling to deal with esteem issues, peer attitudes, teasing, etc.
- ☐ Address busing concerns to ensure room on buses for seating
- ☐ Arrange to provide opportunities for the individual to participate in intramural and extra-curricular events
- ☐ Make any class location changes that may be needed

Adapted From: Sevier County Tennessee School System Section 504 Plans: Examples of Program Accommodations and Adjustments <http://www.slc.sevier.org/>

