

# Disability Fact Sheet



A **disability** is a physical or mental condition that limits a person's movements, senses, or activities.

**Individualized Education Plan (IEP)** – plan for who students who have a disability that affects school performance and is school aged. Students receive specialized instruction and goals to account for areas of discrepancy from peers. Must be found eligible through the special education process. Must have a case manager at the school.

**504 Education Plan** – allows for accommodations and modifications for students who have a disability but are not found eligible for special education. This plan does not require a special education teacher.

## Accommodations vs. Modifications

**Accommodations:** are instructional adaptations or changes in the setting but do not alter the test format  
Ex. additional time, breaks throughout testing, preferential seating, highlighted material, calculator, large print, read aloud separate setting, answering orally or through scribe.

**Modifications:** is a change in the course, standard, or expectation  
Ex. Lower curriculum standards, materials simplified, grading changed,

## IDEA's 14 School Age Categories

- Autism
- Deaf-blindness
- Deafness
- Emotional disturbance
- Hearing impairment
- Intellectual disability
- Multiple disabilities
- Orthopedic impairment
- Other health impairments
- Specific learning disability
- Speech or language impairment
- Traumatic brain injury
- Visual impairment (including blindness)

**Person First Language** – a disability does not define a person  
Do NOT say...The autistic child  
Rather...The child with autism