

Testing Accommodations for College Bound Students

by Terry Mattingly, Licensed School Psychologist

Do you have a student with ADHD, a learning disability, a physical disability, a hearing impairment, a psychological or psychiatric disability, or a visual impairment? Many students with ADHD and/or a learning disability have difficulty processing information quickly, and completing tasks within the allotted times. These students are often very bright, but just need extra time to demonstrate the knowledge they have acquired throughout their educational career. These accommodations can help to “even the playing field” with other students without these difficulties. These evaluations can also be brought to college and used to apply for accommodations on tests at the college level.

Your student may qualify for accommodations on standardized testing for college-bound students. Your student can apply for accommodations through the College Board and ETS to receive accommodations on Advanced Placement (AP) Exams, the PSAT, SAT, ACT, and on other post-college exams such as the GRE, MCAT, and LSAT. A full psycho-educational evaluation given within the last three years is required to apply for accommodations. Possible accommodations include:

- 50% Extra time on tests
- 100% Extra time on tests
- Taking the test in an alternate room to reduce distractions
- The use of frequent breaks during testing
- The option of taking the test at a specified time
- The option of taking the test over multiple days
- Larger print/Braille/Visual Magnification
- Dictation of responses to a verbal scribe
- Large block answer sheets rather than bubble sheets
- The use of special furniture
- The use of special lighting and/or acoustics

For further information on these evaluations and the requirements of the College Board, contact:

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