

**Comparison of the Requirements and Procedures of  
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)  
and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)**

	<b>IDEA (K-12)</b>	<b>ADA (College)</b>
<b>Rights Guaranteed by the Law</b>	Free, appropriate, public education (FAPE)	Prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability
<b>Who is Covered</b>	Every child; Concept of Zero Reject	Students who are “otherwise qualified”
<b>Identification and Evaluation of Students Disabilities</b>	District is responsible for identifying students with disabilities, evaluating them, and covering the costs.	College has no such responsibility. Students must self-identify and provide appropriate documentation. If an evaluation is needed, the expense is the student’s responsibility.
<b>Determining Services</b>	Individualized Education Plan (IEP) developed by team  Curriculum modifications and special programs are common.	Reasonable accommodations, including auxiliary aids and services, must be requested by the student.  Academic adjustments that equalize opportunity for participation are required; Substantial modifications to curriculum and lowering standards are not required.
<b>Personal devices and services such as wheelchairs , hearing aids, and personal care attendants</b>	Provided by district if determined to be necessary (and included in IEP)	Colleges are not required to provide these.
<b>Role of Parents</b>	Parents must be included in decision-making	College students are over 18 and considered adults. No parent consultation is required.
<b>Appeals Process</b>	Right to due process as spelled out in the law	College grievance procedure, then file a complaint with USDIE Office of Civil Rights