

Oliver Ames High School
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A Guide to Post Secondary Planning for Students with Disabilities

The Guidance Department at Oliver Ames High School presents this packet of information to you in hopes to help support and assist you in the college search process. We understand that the college search process can be a stressful time for all parents and students. We want to make certain that you have all the information in order to ensure your student will receive the most appropriate support services he/she needs in the future. The Guidance Department trusts that this information will help to provide further guidance and explanations for what is to come. Please contact your student's guidance counselor with any further questions.

High School Teachers	College Professors
Teachers check your completed homework.	Professors may not always check homework, but will assume you can perform the same tasks on tests.
Teachers approach you if they believe you need assistance.	Professors are usually open and helpful, but most expect you to initiate contact if you need help.
Teachers are often available for conversation before, during or after class.	Professors expect and want you to attend their scheduled office hours.
<u>*Guiding principle:</u> High school is a teaching environment in which you acquire facts and skills.	<u>*Guiding principle:</u> College is a learning environment in which you take responsibility for thinking through and applying what you have learned.
Tests in High School	Tests in College
Testing is frequent and covers small amounts of material.	Testing is usually infrequent and may be cumulative, covering large amounts of material.
Make up tests are often available.	Make up tests are seldom an option; if they are, you need to request them.
<u>*Guiding principle:</u> Mastery is usually seen as the ability to reproduce what you were taught in the form in which it was presented to you, or to solve the kinds of problems you were shown how to solve.	<u>*Guiding principle:</u> Mastery is often seen as the ability to apply what you have learned to new situations or to solve new kinds of problems.
Grades in High School	Grades in College
Consistently good homework grades may raise your overall grade when test grades are low.	Grades on tests and major papers usually provide most of the course grade.
Extra credit projects are often available to help you raise your grade.	Extra credit projects cannot, generally speaking, be used to raise a grade in a college course.
<u>*Guiding principle:</u> Effort counts. Courses are usually structured to reward a "good-faith effort."	<u>*Guiding principle:</u> Results count. Though "good-faith effort" is important in regard to the professor's willingness to help you achieve good results, it will not substitute for results in the grading process.

Finding the Right Fit: What to look for when choosing a college with LD programs and services

Listed you will find some questions you might want to explore as you compare the various services and programs at different colleges. This checklist can help you evaluate the colleges that you are interested in.

	College Name	College Name	College Name	College Name
Does the college have a comprehensive program?				
Is the college culture sensitive to the gifts and needs to LD students?				
Are LD students fully integrated into the college?				
Is there an additional fee for LD services?				
Are LD specialists available?				
Professional level of training				
Appropriate staff/student ratio				
What is the nature of support?				
Is there academic advising that integrates the LD issues?				
Are facilities inviting and appropriate?				
Is there an Assistive Technology Center?				
Is assistance available in the use of assistive technologies?				
Are the following services available:				
Extended time				
Note-takers				
Alternative exam arrangements				
Is subject area tutoring available?				
Are these counseling services available?				
Individual counseling				
LD Support				

Examples of Colleges with Support Services

Some suggestions of colleges/universities that offer extensive services for students with disabilities:

Anna Maria College
Beacon College
Becker College
Champlain College
Colby-Sawyer College
Curry College
Dean College
Fitchburg State College
Franklin Pierce University
Hofstra University
Johnson & Wales University
Keene State College
Landmark College
Lasell College
Lesley College
Lyndon State College
Lynn University
Mass College Liberal Arts

Massasoit Community College
MassBay Community College
Middlesex Community College
Mitchell College
Mount Ida College
Newbury College
New England College
Nichols College
Plymouth State College
Roger Williams University
Salem State College
Southern Vermont College
University of Arizona
University of Massachusetts,
Lowell
University of Southern Maine
University of Southern New
Hampshire

Special Focus School/Programs:

Berkshire School (Autism) - MA
Threshold (Lesley University) - MA
College Living Experience (CLE) - FL
Maplebrook School - NY
The PACE Program - IL

**** These are just an example. Please check with schools specifically for their services.****



Post-Secondary Options for Students with Learning Disabilities

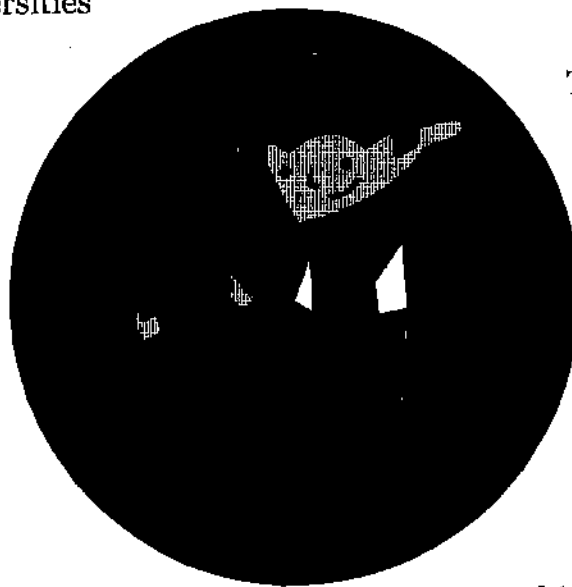
5th Year, also called 13th Year or Post-Graduate Programs ("PG Year")

2 or 4 Year Colleges for Students with Learning Disabilities

Four Year Liberal Arts Colleges or Universities

Two Year Associates Degree Colleges

GAP Year



Community Colleges

Professional Programs

Internship Program or Alternative Schools

Special Focus Schools (NVLD; Low-avg. Ability)

Pieper
Pratt
Winbury 2006

Navigating the College Search for Students With LD and AD/HD – Online Resources

College Search and LD

- Association for Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD) – www.ahead.org
- Princeton Review -- www.princetonreview.com
- College Board: Disabilities accommodations for SAT exams – <http://collegeboard.com/ssd/student/index.html>
- ACT exams disabilities accommodations – www.act.org/aap/disab/index.html
- Curry College; Academics; LD Program – www.curry.edu
- LD Online – <http://www.ldonline.org/indepth/college>

Legal Issues

- Advocacy and Legal Issues – www.wrightslaw.com
- Disability access information – www.janejarrow.com

General LD and AD/HD

- Learning Disabilities Online – www.ldonline.org
- Learning Disabilities Association – www.ldantl.org
- National Center for Learning Disabilities – www.nicld.org
- Children and Adults with Attention Deficit Disorder – www.chadd.org
- Council for Exceptional Children – www.cec.org
- International Dyslexia Association – www.interdys.org
- Learning Disabilities Worldwide – www.ldworldwide.org

Assistive Technology

- Kurzweil Reading Software – www.kurzweilededu.com
- Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic – www.rfbd.org
- Dragon Naturally Speaking – www.speechtechnology.com
- Inspiration – www.inspiration.com

Suggested Readings

Many parents find that it is helpful to read books that describe the college transition process and other helpful tips. The following is a list of suggested readings from Curry College.

Teenagers Guide to A.D.D.: Understanding & Treating Attention Disorders Through the Teenage Years by Antony Amen, Sharon Johnson and Daniel G. Amen

When Your Kid Goes to College:: A Parents' Survival Guide by Carol Barkin

Parenting College Freshmen: Consulting For Adulthood by Linda L. Bips, Kristina Wallitsch and Jessica Wallitsch

Letting Go (Fifth Edition): A Parents' Guide to Understanding the College Years by Karen Levin Coburn and Madge Lawrence Treeger

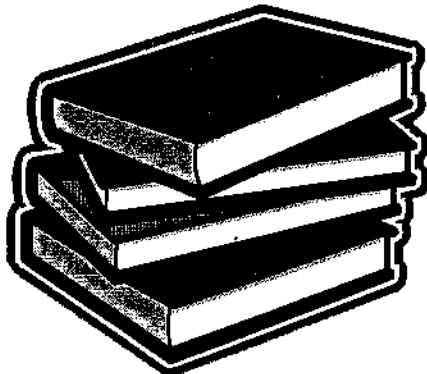
Guiding Teens with Learning Disabilities: Navigating the Transition from High School to Adulthood by Arlyn J. Roffman

Survival Guide for College Students with ADHD or LD by Kathleen G. Nadeau

Self-Advocacy Skills for Students With Learning Disabilities: Making It Happen in College and Beyond by Henry B. Reiff

ADD and the College Student: A Guide for High School and College Students with Attention Deficit Disorder by Patricia O. Quinn

You're On Your Own (But I'm Here If You Need Me): Mentoring Your Child During the College Years by Marjorie Savage



What Does Everybody Else Know That I Don't?: Social Skills Help for Adults with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder by Michele Novotni PhD and Randy Peterson

Almost Grown: Launching Your Child from High School to College by Patricia Pasick