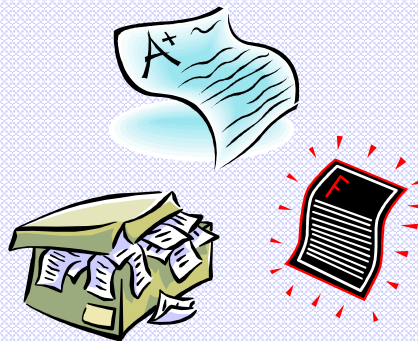


College Planning for Students who Learn Differently



Are you concerned about...

- Poor organization
- Inconsistent grades
- Procrastination
- Poor self-concept
- Lack of motivation



If so, you are in the right place!



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College Readiness

- Academic ability
- Emotional regulation
- Social skills

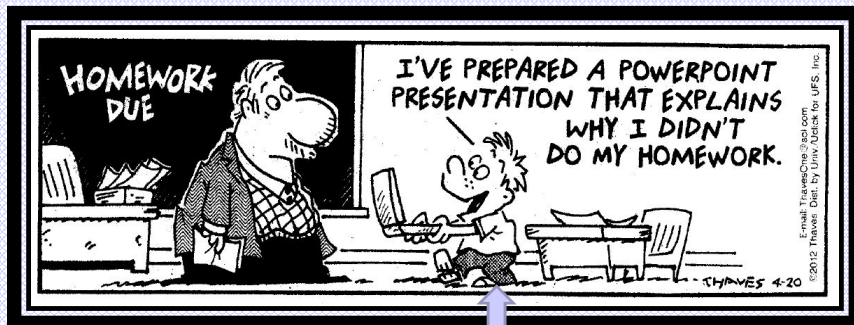


Think: Three Legged Stool



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Is Joey ready for college?



Joey



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Best Learning Environment

- Hands-on, experiential learner
- Internship, co-op experiences
- Interactive classes (bored in lecture-style)
- Ability to have reduced course load
- Priority registration
- Benefit from carefully chosen professors



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Determining Priorities

What is important to the family? The student?

- Size, Location of College
- Type of Learning Environment
- Type of Community
- Level of Support and Structure
- Specific Accommodations and Services



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Postsecondary /Transitional Programs

- Independent Living Skills Programs
- Two Year Colleges
- One Year Transitional Programs
- Post-Graduate Year
- Gap Year
- Summer Programs



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Gap Year Programs



- Travel/Community Service/Internships
- Goals of Gap Year
 - Leadership
 - Self-confidence
 - Social skills
 - Emotional growth
 - Independence



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Spectrum of Support in College

Know what your child needs:

- Basic ADA compliance
- Moderate support services
- Comprehensive support programs
- Social/life skills support programs



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Basic ADA Compliance (Minimal Support)

- Basic accommodations available
- No professional learning specialist
- Student needs to be self-advocate
- No distraction-reduced testing environment
- Peer tutors may be available



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Moderate Support Services

- Learning Center staffed by professional with degree in special education or psychology
- Distraction-reduced testing environment
- Peer or professional tutors
- Support groups and workshops
- Specialized summer programs



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Moderate Support (continued)

- Many accommodations and services offered
- Organizational and study skills assistance
- Weekly appointments available
- Drop-in assistance available
- Student still needs to seek out assistance
- May advocate for student with professors



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Colleges with Moderate Support

Some examples are:

- McDaniel College (MD)
- Clark University (MA)
- Guilford College (NC)
- Radford University (VA)
- Susquehanna University (PA)
- UNC Chapel Hill (NC)
- Longwood University (VA)
- American University (DC)



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Comprehensive Support Program

- Separate program for students who learn differently
- Fee-based program
- Students remain part of college community
- Full-time director and several staff members
- May communicate directly with professors
- Will advocate on behalf of students



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Comprehensive Program (continued)

- Assistance with organizational and time management skills
- Will meet one-on-one with student
 - Once a week up to several times a week
 - Typically 3 – 5 hours a week
- Will meet in small groups
 - Supplementary instruction (SI)
 - Subject-based study groups



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Colleges with Comprehensive Programs

Some examples are:

- Dean College (MA)
- Hofstra University (NY)
- Fairleigh Dickinson University (NJ)
- Mercyhurst University (PA)
- Curry College (MA)
- McDaniel College (MD)



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Programs for Students with ASD

These programs include a social skills development component:

- Rochester Institute of Technology (NY)
- University of Connecticut
- Adelphi University (NY)
- Mercyhurst University (PA)
- Augsburg College (MN)



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Coaching Model

- Professional ADHD/Executive Function Coach
 - Provides weekly (or more frequent) meetings
 - Works on time management and organization
 - Assists with daily schedule and long-term planning
 - Assists with “chunking,” breaking down assignments into smaller parts
 - Holds student accountable
 - Is an advocate for the student
 - Helps student internalize the skills needed to be a successful college student



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Colleges Exclusively for Students who Learn Differently

- Landmark College (Putney, VT)
- Beacon College (Leesburg, FL)

That's all!



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Summary

- Question and Answer Period



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