

# DID YOU KNOW? ACCOMMODATIONS CLARIFIED

## IDEA - K-12

Students with disabilities in US K-12 public schools are covered by the federal law IDEA, which puts accommodations in place with an IEP or 504 plan developed by an academic support team for student success.

## ADA AND THE ADAAM - COLLEGE AND BEYOND

College students with disabilities are covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Amendment Act of 2008. Accommodations are implemented in an interactive, case-by-case process that is meant to ensure equitable access.

## WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU

As a student with a disability, you are the person most knowledgeable about how your disability impacts your day-to-day life. Therefore, you are directly involved with the accommodations process, which includes meeting with our office and your professors to discuss what accommodations are possible without modifying the learning goals for the class.

## TRANSITIONING TO SELF ADVOCACY

The Office of Disability Services recognizes this can be a big step for first year students. We encourage you to review any past accommodations with your support team before your initial meeting with ODS so as to have a better understanding of what has been most beneficial so far. This way, you can better advocate for yourself on campus. You got this!

## WE ARE HERE TO HELP

Still have questions? That's okay! 1 in 3 Smithies is registered with the Office of Disability Services, so you're in great company. If you find yourself having difficulty sending or handing in your accommodation letter to your faculty, send us an email. We can help.

We're looking forward to working with you!  
[ods@smith.edu](mailto:ods@smith.edu)