



BEACON
COLLEGE

Learning Disabilities and ADHD in a Postsecondary World

Beacon College



- The first baccalaureate college exclusively for students with learning differences or ADHD
- Academic support embedded directly into the curriculum
- Faculty are content experts trained to teach non-traditional learners
- Executive Function support is embedded in the academic curricula

Our Students



- Currently 67% of our students enroll as first time college students
- 33% attend Beacon College after disappointing academic results in college, often stemming from executive function challenges

The Transition

Individuals with **D**isabilities in
Education **A**ct

vs.

Americans with **D**isabilities **A**ct

Student's Responsibilities



- Choose a college or university suited to their strengths as a learner
- Inform the college or university of their disability
- Keep updated documentation (3 years)
- Keep track of communication regarding accommodations

Assessment Documents



- IEP or 504 Plan
- Diagnosis of a Learning Disability
- Cognitive Testing
 - Wechsler Intelligence Scale (WISC/WAIS)
 - Woodcock Johnson Cognitive
- Achievement Testing
 - Woodcock Johnson Test of Achievement
 - Wechsler Individual Achievement Scale
 - Gray Oral Reading Test
- List of Accommodations
- Transcripts

College Support Structures



ADA Compliant

Targeted Support Programs

Comprehensive Support Model

5 Foundations of College Success



- Academic Skill
- Self Understanding (Meta-cognition)
 - Executive Function
- Motivation and Confidence
 - **Self - Advocacy**

Student Profile: Learning Disabilities



Possible Challenges

Reading and Writing Deficits

Auditory Comprehension

Processing Speed

Working Memory Deficits

Student Profile: Learning Disabilities



Assess

Current Achievement Levels

Extent of Remediation

Level of Support Previously Received

Self Advocacy Skills

Student Profile: Learning Disabilities



Interventions

Language Decoding Remediation

Assistive Technology Instruction

Copies of Course Notes

Preferential Course Registration

Extended Testing Time

Student Profile: ADHD/Executive Functioning



Possible Challenges

Organization and Time Management

Auditory Comprehension

Processing Speed

Working Memory Deficits

Impulse Control

Student Profile: ADHD/Executive Functioning



Assess

Level of Support Provided by High School

Extent of Family “Scaffolding”

Student’s Level of Independence

Medication?

Student Profile: ADHD/Executive Functioning



Interventions

Organization and Time Management Coaching

Copies of Course Notes

Preferential Seating

Preferential Course Registration

Peer Tutoring

Life Style Coaching (Nutrition & Exercise)

Student Profile

ASD



Possible Challenges

Academic Skills (Math)

Executive Functioning

Interpersonal Skills

Hygiene

Student Profile: ASD



Assess

Current Achievement Skill Levels

Level of Support Provided by High School

Extent of Family “Scaffolding”

Social Emotional Skills

Independent Living Skills

Student Profile: ASD



Interventions

Counseling

Organization and Time Management Coaching

Math Tutoring

Occupational Therapy

Preferential Seating

If It All Goes South: The Break Through Semester



- **Make the most of intellectual talents;**
- **Identify Personal Learning style and strengths;**
- **Activate and reinforce core academic skills and habits;**
- **Forge a course of action for future college success;**
- **Reset academic and career trajectory**
- **Build basic academic skill; and**
- **Thrive as a valued member of Beacon's welcoming living-and-learning community!**



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Questions?