

Allison is a 16-year-old sophomore with a Specific Learning Disability that affects reading comprehension and written expression. She enjoys reading poetry and short novels, which she can generally understand. However, with her text books, reading more than a paragraph at a time causes her great difficulty in comprehending the material. If material is read aloud to her, she can understand the material.

As far as written expression, Allison satisfactorily can perform some everyday writing tasks with not much trouble. She is able to text and email messages to her friends and family. She is also to address envelopes when mailing items, writing a phone message for her mom, and completing most applications. She has a good grasp of correct punctuation to use. It is in her general education classes where she struggles with written expression. Allison has difficulty in keeping to the topic when writing a selection. She currently is working on developing sentences that go with a topic sentence for a paragraph provided for her. If she is having to write more than a paragraph of 5 sentences, Allison becomes very frustrated and wants to quit.

Allison is in all general education courses but thinks she does not need her IEP. When in middle school Allison was “mortified” (her words) about having a disability. She doesn’t understand what a learning disability is and wants no one to know about it!

Allison thinks she wants to work in childcare because her sister teaches at a local school. She has visited her sister at her classroom and has helped her with lesson plans. She also has six siblings who she babysits on occasions. She wants to attend college after high school. Allison’s parents indicated they are concerned about how her lack of homework completion will affect her in college. She has not been managing her time and does not have the organizational skill to manage her homework and social life. Her parents also expressed concerns about her ability to

manage money. Allison is also concerned her disability may stop her from going to college.

Allison likes to work out at the gym with friends and play softball on the high school team. She loves movies and shopping with her sister. She is very social and sometimes puts that ahead of her schoolwork. Her teachers and parents believe Allison will be successful, but they know she will need to meet assignment and project deadlines.