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# GRADUATION REQUIREMENT ACCOMMODATIONS VS MODIFICATIONS

FEBRUARY 2023 TRANSITION ROUND-UP



**south dakota**  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Learning. Leadership. Service.

# OVERVIEW

- Graduation Requirements
- Accommodations vs Modifications
- Questions

<https://doe.sd.gov/gradrequirements/>

## High School Graduation Requirements

South Dakota's current requirements for graduation were passed by the Board of Education Standards in July 16, 2018. These requirements are outlined in [South Dakota Administrative Rule 24-43-11](#). The requirements include a base of required coursework and the ability for students to earn endorsements on top of that base. The requirements are designed to provide flexibility for students to meet their postsecondary and career aspirations within a framework of general requirements.

### Documents and Links

#### Documents and Links

[2018 Graduation Requirements Handbook](#)

[2018 Graduation Requirements Infographic](#)

[Advanced Endorsements on Transcripts](#)

[State-Approved Industry-Recognized Credentials](#)

[Guidelines for Exploring Science Electives with Advanced Computer Science Courses \(updated 10/31/19\)](#)

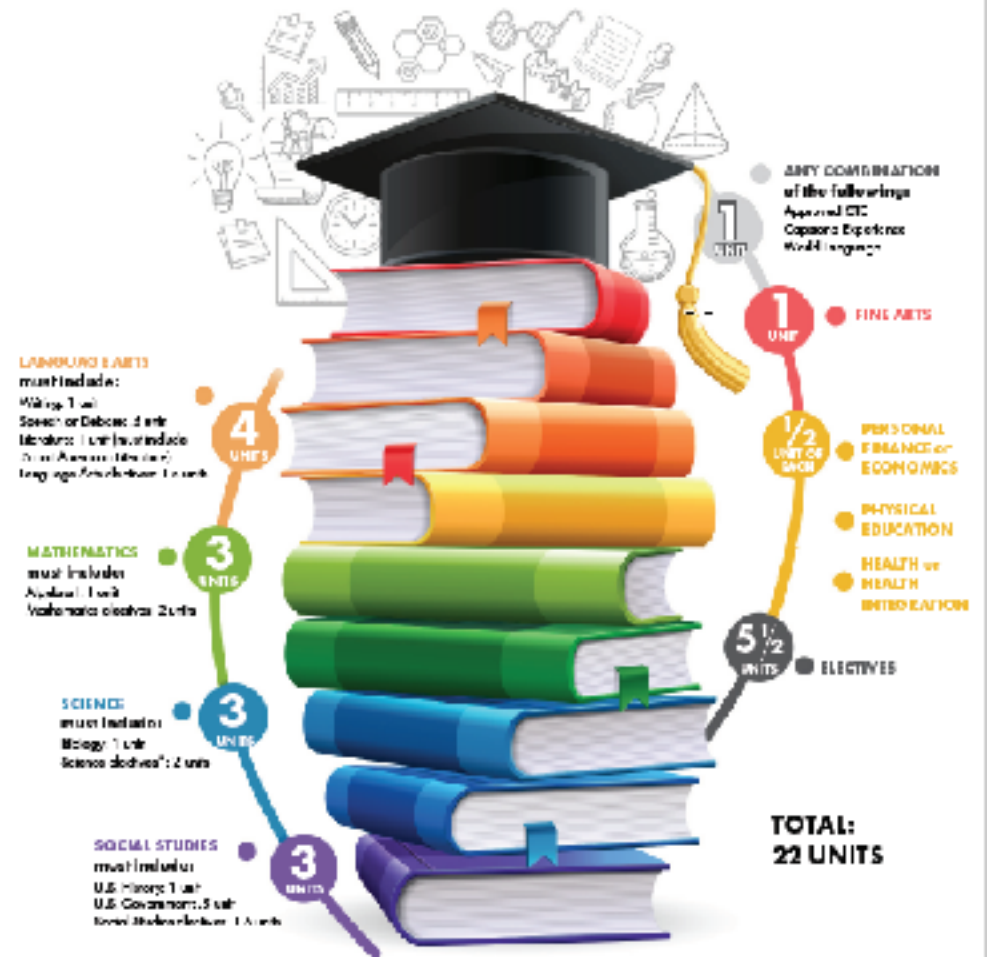
[Making Sense of South Dakota's Graduation Requirements](#)

[Advising/Transcript Audit Checklist](#)

[Advising/Transcript Audit Checklist, including Assessment Scores](#)

## South Dakota High School Graduation Requirements

Approved by the South Dakota Board of Education Standards in July 2018

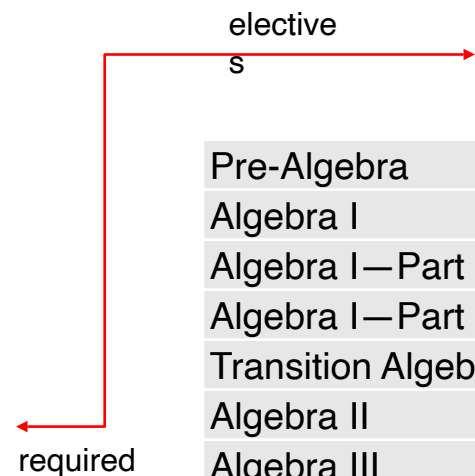
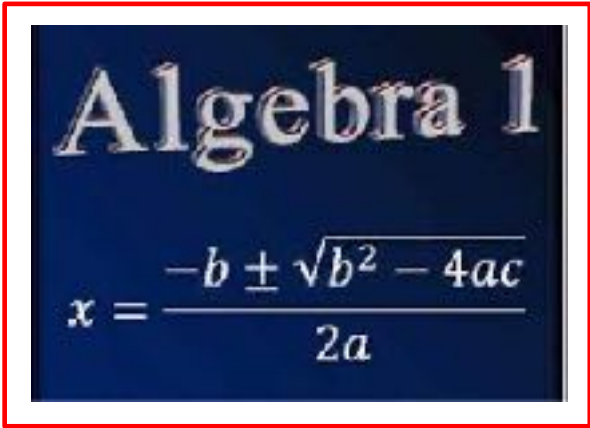


\*An advanced-level science elective course may be substituted for one of the above science history and government biology and government science courses at <http://doe.sd.gov/gradrequirements>

\*\*Other courses placed on a student's transcript may be substituted for those on the above list. Such substitutions are subject to review and approval by the Board of Education. See <http://doe.sd.gov/gradrequirements> for more information.

\*\*Advanced Endorsements Available

# MATHEMATICS MUST INCLUDE.....



**2 units of mathematics electives**

Pre-Algebra	Pre-Calculus
Algebra I	Calculus
Algebra I—Part 1	Multivariate Calculus
Algebra I—Part 2	AP Calculus AB
Transition Algebra	AP Calculus BC
Algebra II	Mathematical Modeling
Algebra III	College Mathematics Preparation
Accelerated Algebra II	General Applied Mathematics
Integrated Mathematics I	Occupationally Applied Mathematics
Integrated Mathematics II	Technical Mathematics
Integrated Mathematics III	Business Mathematics
Integrated Mathematics IV	Business Mathematics with Algebra
Algebra Enhancement	Computer Mathematics with Algebra
Informal Geometry	Consumer Mathematics
Geometry	Probability and Statistics
Principles of Algebra and Geometry	AP Statistics
Accelerated Geometry	Mathematics—Test Preparation
Discrete Mathematics	Mathematical Proficiency Development

**Total of 3 units of math**

POSSIBLE ELECTIVE

# ALGEBRA ENHANCEMENT

COURSE CODE 02069

- Algebra Enhancement courses reinforce, review, and expand concepts taught in the Algebra course.
- This course offers structured support to students who are concurrently enrolled in Algebra 1.
- This course includes material to prepare students for the Algebra 1

# SOCIAL STUDIES MUST INCLUDE.....



required

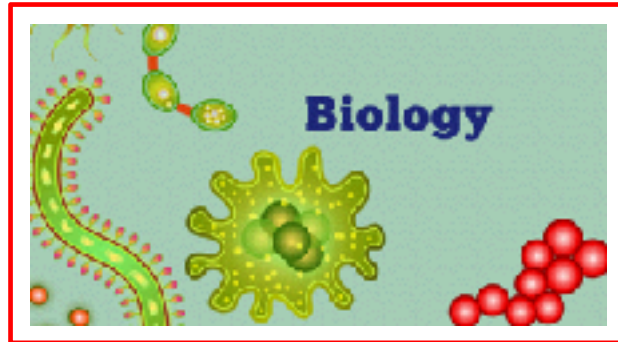
electives

1.5 units of social science electives

World Geography	U.S. Ethnic Studies	AP Government	Social Science
AP Human Geography	Contemporary U.S. Issues	U.S. Government, Civics, and Economics	Social Science Research
U.S. Geography	U.S. Ethnic Studies	Civics	Humanities
World History—Overview	U.S. Gender Studies	Law Studies	Issues of Western Humanities
Modern World History	Particular Topics in U.S. History	Consumer Law	Philosophy
Modern European History	U.S. Wars and Military Conflicts	Legal System	Modern Intellectual History
AP European History	Native American Studies	Simulated Political Process	
AP World History	U.S. Government—Comprehensive	Tribal Government	
Ancient Civilizations	Political Science	Economics	
Ancient Civilizations	Political Science	Comparative Economics	
Medieval European History	International Relations	AP Microeconomics	
Ancient and Medieval History	United States and World Affairs	AP Macroeconomics	
World Area Studies	AP U.S. Government and Politics	AP Economics	
World People Studies	AP Comparative Government and Politics	Anthropology	
Western Civilization	AP Government	Particular Topics in Anthropology	
Contemporary World Issues		Psychology	
Early U.S. History		AP Psychology	
Modern U.S. History		Sociology	

Total of 3 units of social studies

# SCIENCE MUST INCLUDE.....



required

elective  
s

**2 units of science electives**

Earth Science	Biology
Geology	Biology—Advanced Studies
Environmental Science	Anatomy and Physiology
Astronomy	Anatomy
Marine Science	Physiology
Meteorology	AP Biology
Physical Geography	Genetics
Earth and Space Science	Microbiology
Energy and the Environment	Zoology
	Conceptual Biology

**Total of 3 units of science**

# Base Diploma Requirements



Required for ALL Students

(4 units)  
Language Arts

- 1 unit **WRITING**
- .5 unit **SPEECH/DEBATE**
- 1 unit **LITERATURE**  
(must include .5 unit American Literature)
- 1.5 units **LANGUAGE ARTS ELECTIVES**

(3 units)  
Math

- 1 unit **ALGEBRA I**
- 2 units **MATH ELECTIVES**

(3 units)  
Science

- 1 unit **BIOLOGY**
- 2 units **SCIENCE ELECTIVES\***

(3 units)  
Social Studies

- 1 unit **U.S. HISTORY**
- .5 unit **U.S. GOVERNMENT**
- 1.5 units **SOCIAL STUDIES ELECTIVES**

(1 unit)  
Any Combo

- APPROVED CTE**
- CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE**
- WORLD LANGUAGE**

(.5 unit)  
Personal Finance or Economics

(1 unit)  
Fine Arts

(5.5 units)  
Electives

(.5 unit)  
Physical Education

(.5 unit)  
Health or Health Integration

**TOTAL:  
22 Units**



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class of: \_\_\_\_\_

[Name of School] HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA = [XX] units

[Complete to figure out courses to take or to make sure a student is on track to graduate]

High School Diploma Required Courses are in Bold      ½ year = ½ unit, 1 year = 1 unit (chorus & band may be different)

**Language Arts (4 units)**

- Writing** [\_,\_] Grades 1 unit
- Speech or Debate** [ ] Grade .5 unit
- American Literature** [ ] Grade .5 unit
- Literature** [\_,\_] Grades .5 unit
- \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] Grade [ ] unit
- \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] Grade [ ] unit
- \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] Grade [ ] unit

**Mathematics (3 units)**

- Algebra I** [ ] Grade 1 unit
- \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] Grade [ ] unit
- \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] Grade [ ] unit
- \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] Grade [ ] unit

**Science (3 units)**

- Biology** [ ] Grade 1 unit
- \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] Grade [ ] unit
- \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] Grade [ ] unit
- \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] Grade [ ] unit

**Social Studies (3 units)**

- U.S. History** [ ] Grade 1 unit
- U.S. Government** [ ] Grade .5 unit
- \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] Grade [ ] unit
- \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] Grade [ ] unit
- \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] Grade [ ] unit

**CTE, Capstone Experience, World Language (1 unit in any combo)**

- \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] Grade [ ] unit
- \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] Grade [ ] unit
- \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] Grade [ ] unit
- \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] Grade [ ] unit

**Fine Arts (1 unit)**

- \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] Grade [ ] unit
- \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] Grade [ ] unit
- \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] Grade [ ] unit
- \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] Grade [ ] unit

**Personal Finance or Economics (.5 unit)**

- \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] Grade [ ] unit
- \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] Grade [ ] unit

**Physical Education (.5 unit)**

- \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] Grade [ ] unit
- \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] Grade [ ] unit

**Health or Health Integration (.5 unit)**

- \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] Grade [ ] unit
- \_\_\_\_\_ [ ] Grade [ ] unit

[Advanced Endorsements are on the next page]

- Documents section on Graduation Requirements website
- 2018 Graduation Requirements Handbook
  - Page 29

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South Dakota has one regular signed diploma.

However, IEP teams may modify the course requirements needed to receive a district diploma.

**This should be done with caution and by fully informing the parents and student of any implications that may be a result from modifying the course requirements.**

Definition of a Regular High School Diploma: Students who exit an educational program through receipt of a regular high school diploma identical to that for which students without disabilities are eligible.

- ❖ These students met the same standards for graduation as students without disabilities.
- ❖ Does not include an alternative degree not fully aligned with the state's academic standards, such as a certificate/district diploma or GED.
- ❖ The IEP team must denote whether the student will meet the same graduation course requirements as students without disabilities or if the IEP team is modifying the course requirements.
- ❖ If modifying the graduation requirements, IEP teams must document on the comments in the course of study section on the IEP courses that will be modify and document on the prior written notice the decision and reason.
- ❖ The IEP team should bring forward the modified graduation course(s) each year.
- ❖ If the student's course requirements are modified, then Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) does not end until they meet all regular diploma requirements similar to their peers or age out.

<https://doe.sd.gov/gradrequirements/>



(605) 773-3134 Contact Us

## High School Graduation Requirements

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+ Documents and Links

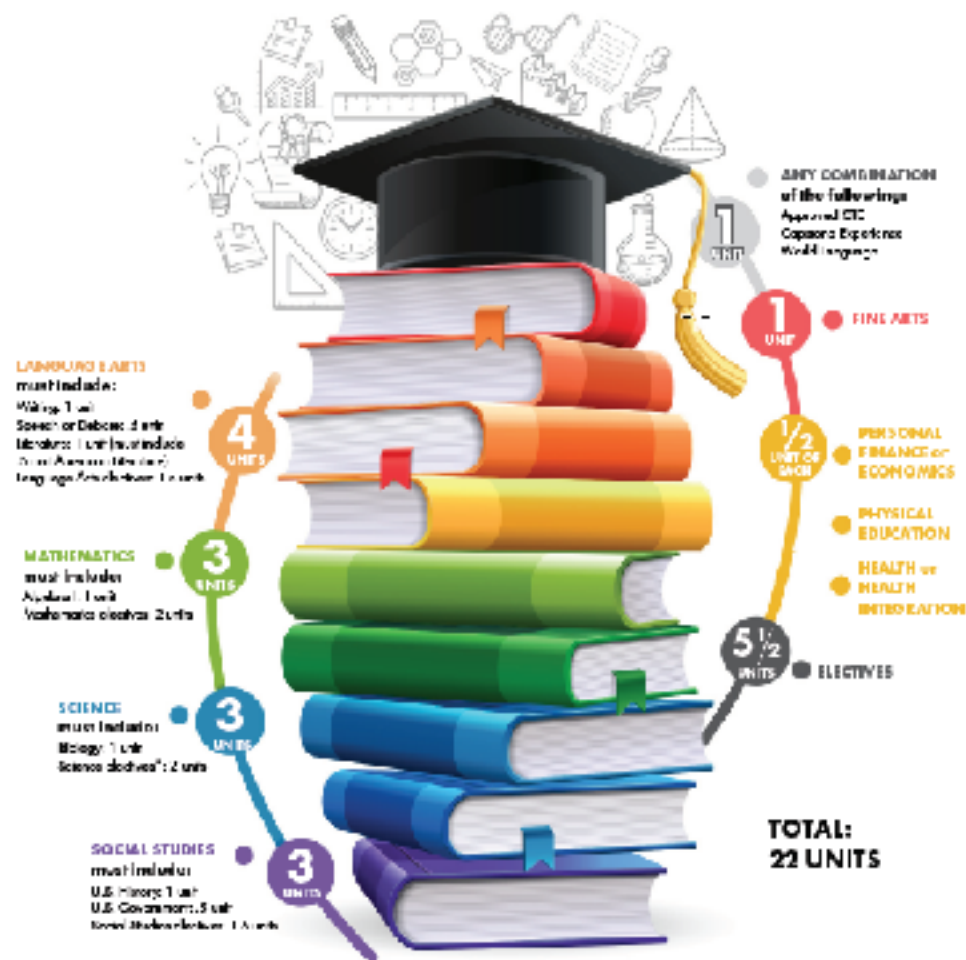
— Students with Special Needs

- **ISSUE BRIEF: Graduation requirements and students with special needs**
- **Disabilities Policy (Updated July 2020)**
- **Graduation Coding Guidance for Students on an IEP**
- **Questions & Answers on Report Cards and Transcripts for Students with Disabilities**

+ Contacts

## South Dakota High School Graduation Requirements

Approved by the South Dakota Board of Education Standards in July 2010



<sup>1</sup> An endorsement-related course selection may only be selected for use in all the above science history and government biology & government courses listed at <http://doe.sd.gov/gradrequirements>

<sup>2</sup> Students who plan to attend South Dakota State University, the University of South Dakota, South Dakota State University, or South Dakota State University must complete 22 units of high school graduation requirements.

<sup>3</sup> Advanced Endorsements Available





# ACCOMMODATIONS VS MODIFICATIONS



## Accommodations and Modifications

### Accommodations

An accommodation is a support or service that is provided to help a student fully access the general education curriculum. Accommodations provided during classroom instruction and assessments must also be provided during state assessments, if permitted.

- Change **how** a child learns or accesses the curriculum
- Change the way materials are presented
- Change the way a student can respond
- Allow students with disabilities the opportunity to complete the same curricular activities as peers
- Keep intact the objectives of the content or activity
- Enable the student to bypass the effects of the disability
- Help remove barriers

### Modifications

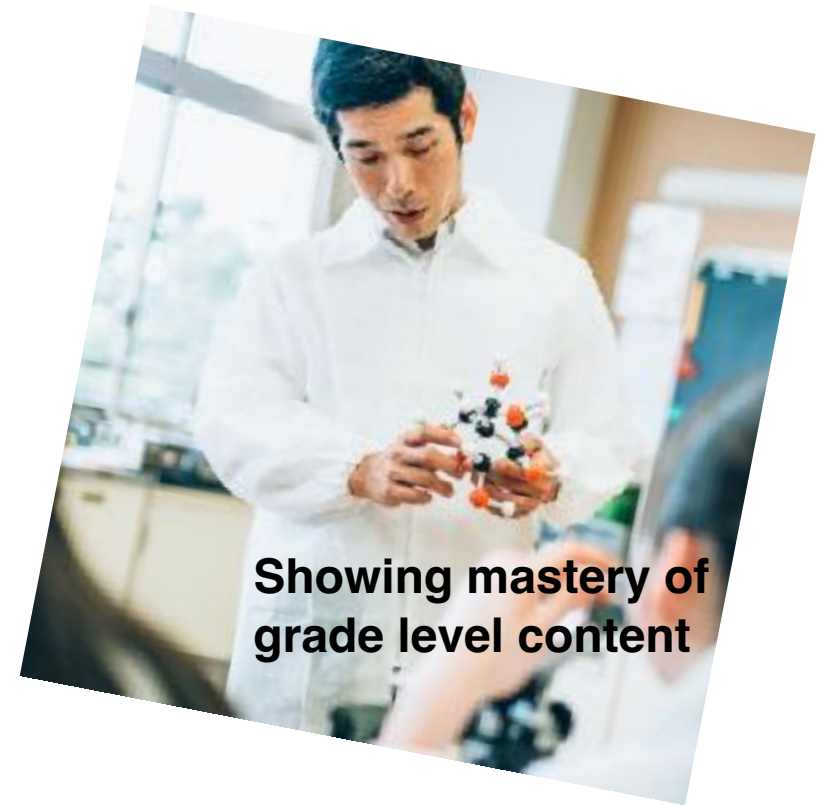
Modifications are changes to course content, required work, or instructional level. They change the learning goal for an individual student and are used when the general curriculum is too advanced for a student. Modifications usually involve changing an assignment or objective.

- Change **what** a child is taught or expected to do in school
- Individualizes changes made to the content and performance expectations for students
- Change the **complexity** level of information
- Modify the course or activities/objectives to meet the needs of the learner
- Allow a student with a more significant learning need to experience the same curriculum as his or her peers, but with different learning outcomes
- Utilizes different grading criteria and/or credits received compared to peers

# WHAT MIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS LOOK LIKE IN HIGH SCHOOL



Getting the content based on grade-level content standards



Showing mastery of grade level content

# Accommodation Examples



- Extended time
- Changing time format



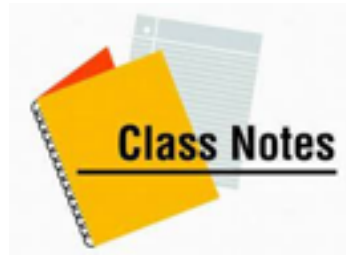
- Audio to text
- Use a speech to text program for written assignments



- Provide large copy of the material



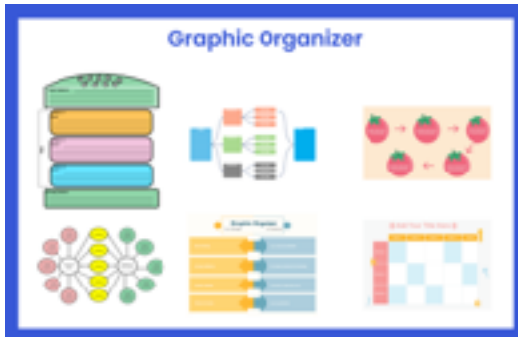
- Break longer assignments into more manageable segments
- Give directions in smaller steps



- Provide copy of class notes



- Small group work



- Providing graphic organizers



- information received orally
- providing answers orally

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## Some accommodations could also be modifications

Need to look at what is being taught (content standards)  
and what the expectations are (at grade level)



### REDUCING THE NUMBER OF ITEMS ON AN ASSIGNMENT

- if the student can show he/she understands all of the content needed for the assignment with less items it is an accommodation
- if the student is only doing the easier items and those do not cover all the content then it's a modification



# WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AN ACCOMMODATION AND A MODIFICATION?



## MODIFICATIONS



DIRECTLY ALTERS THE MATERIAL/CURRICULUM

### MODIFICATION EXAMPLES:

REMOVING A DIFFICULT QUESTION ON TEST  
(ALTERED THE TEST MATERIAL)



TOO DIFFICULT  
FOR THE  
STUDENT

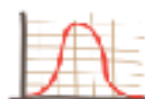


MODIFICATIONS ALLOW  
FOR REMOVAL OF THE  
QUESTION FROM EXAM

OPEN NOTES TESTING  
(MORE MATERIAL PROVIDED)



MODIFYING GRADES  
AS PER THE I.E.P  
(CRITERION ALTERED)



VS.



## ACCOMMODATIONS



AFFECT THE WAY A STUDENT ACCESSES  
THE CURRICULUM

### ACCOMMODATION EXAMPLES:

EXTENDED TIME  
(LONGER ACCESS)



UNDERLINED NOTES  
(FOCUSED ACCESS)



PREFERENTIAL SEATING  
(CLOSER ACCESS)

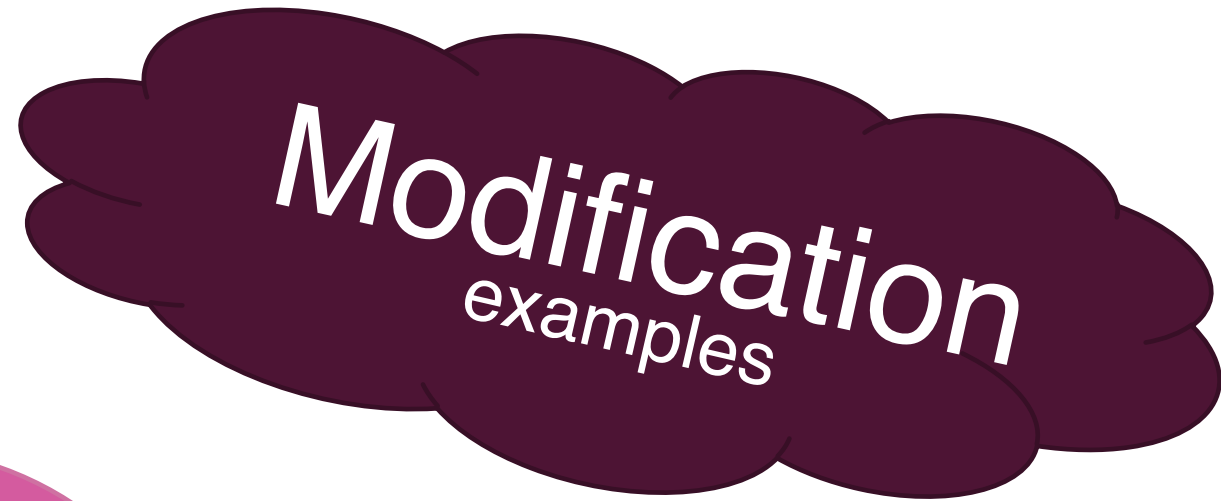


BOOK READ ALOUD  
(VERBAL ACCESS)



10 point scale    7 point scale

90-100	<b>A</b>	93-100
80-89	<b>B</b>	92-85
70-79	<b>C</b>	77-84
60-69	<b>D</b>	70-76
0-59	<b>F</b>	Below 69



Remember  
vs.  
Analyze

A.14    A.14  
B.21 vs. B.21  
C.17    C.17  
D.19



# ACCOMMODATION AND MODIFICATION CONVERSATIONS WITH PARENTS AND SCHOOL STAFF

Who needs to be involved  
in the conversation?



Is the conversation the same  
between parents and school staff?



# QUESTIONS



## CONTACT INFORMATION

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605-773-4257