

Students with disabilities – Section 504

If you believe that your student requires accommodations due to a physical or mental impairment, please contact Graduation Achievement Charter High School.

It is helpful to have a physician complete a medical evaluation prior to a 504 meeting. Grad High will provide a medical evaluation form upon request.

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What is Section 504?

Section 504 protects all qualified students with disabilities, defined as those persons having a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities. Section 504 covers all students who meet this definition, even if they do not fall with the IDEA (Special Educations) categories and even if they do not need specially designed instruction.

Section 504 prohibits discrimination against individuals whose physical or mental impairment substantially limits one or more major life activities, including:

- Caring for one's self
- Performing manual tasks
- Walking
- Seeing
- Hearing
- Speaking
- Breathing
- Working
- Learning

If a school district has reason to believe a student may have a disability as defined under Section 504 and may require special accommodations in the general education setting, the district must evaluate the student. If the student is determined to be eligible under Section 504, the district must develop and implement a plan for the delivery of all services.

The determination of the services needed must be made in accordance with evaluation data by a group of persons knowledgeable about the student. The team should review the nature and presence of the disability, how it affects the student's access to the educational process, whether accommodations are needed to prevent discrimination, and they must make decisions about the provision of those accommodations.

Taken from:

Overview of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
Georgia Department of Education