


**Documentation for
Students with Specific
Learning Disabilities:
A Collaborative Approach**


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The Good News...

- Clear message from State and National leaders that higher education is the goal
- Increased concurrent enrollment options
- Inclusion has led to bigger dreams and higher expectations for participation
- More students with disabilities accessing postsecondary education



The Dilemma is....

- Documentation needs in postsecondary different from secondary requirements
- Gap has existed between what K-12 has and what postsecondary wants...
- Situation impacted by IDEA 2004 -- changed eligibility for learning disabilities, eliminated IQ testing and limited the use of the discrepancy formula

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Colorado's approach

- Proactive!
- History of collaboration
- Colorado Wyoming Consortium of Support Services for Students with Disabilities
- CDE has non-voting membership
- Cross-training
- Colorado *Options* Handbook
- Parent training module (piloted)

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THE Work Group
(Transition to Higher Education Work Group)

- CDE Consultants
- Directors of DSS offices
- School District Transition Coordinators
- School Psychologists
- Coordinator, Workforce Youth Grant
- Parent, Special Education Advisory Council

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Our premise...

- Secondary schools in Colorado will not be using the discrepancy formula
- Most students will not have IQ testing
- However, schools will typically have a great deal of information about a student's functional performance and progress
- So, how can secondary providers package useful information for the postsecondary provider to eliminate need for new testing?

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Culmination of efforts....

- **Guidelines for Postsecondary Institutions**
- **Guidelines for Secondary Educators**

(provided as handouts) and

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On CDE Website:

- Sample IEP statements
- Sample Summary of Performance
- Fast Facts
- Parent training materials

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Next Steps...

- Cross-training for secondary and postsecondary providers to learn together
- Information and/or training on assessment tools used by K-12
- Facilitated discussions in local communities
- Coordinated efforts to obtain accommodation for ACT

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What has your experience been?

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Access materials at the Colorado Department of Education website...

<http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/transresources.asp>

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