

# LEGAL RIGHTS: SCHOOL-AGE VS. POSTSECONDARY

---

## INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT (IDEA) (ENTITLEMENT)



## AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) (ELIGIBILITY)

### **IDEA:**

- An education law that requires schools to provide an IEP, a legal document that lists special education and related services that meet the individual needs of students with disabilities
- A free and appropriate public education (FAPE) in the least restrictive environment (LRE) — usually a general education classroom — for kids with disabilities
- A requirement that public schools identify and evaluate, at no cost to parents, kids suspected of having a disability
- Due process for resolving disagreements between parents and schools

### **ADA:**

- A civil rights law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in schools, workplaces (with the exception of those with fewer than 15 employees), and public spaces
- Legal rights for people with disabilities, which may include accommodations
- Freedom from discrimination at private schools (including colleges and universities) that receive federal funding

### **Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act:**

- A civil rights law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability at schools that receive federal funding
- Protects legal rights for people with disabilities, which may include accommodations