

## What is a disability?\*

**A disability** is a physical or mental disorder that limits one or more things you want and need to do. It can make it difficult to

- **walk, see, hear, or breathe**
- **take care of oneself**
- **learn**
- **work**

**Adults with disabilities** include, but are not limited to, persons with conditions, diseases, and infections, such as these:

- **physical, sight, speech, and hearing disability**
- **epilepsy, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis**
- **cancer, heart disease, diabetes, infection with the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)**
- **mental disability**
- **mental illness**
- **specific learning disability**

Persons with a history of such a condition or otherwise considered as having such a condition are also considered as people with disabilities.

(\*as described in Federal and State Laws)

## Adult Learner With a Disability?

### What you should know...

As an individual with a disability, you are entitled to accommodations. Your needs should be discussed after admission to the program. The school may request records that provide information about your learning needs.

### Remember!

- **You can enter the building.**
- **You can enroll in an adult program.**
- **You can obtain assistance in class and during tests.**



If you are an adult with a disability who meets the admission standards of the educational program, you will be ensured equal opportunity.

## What You Can Do For Yourself

**You are encouraged to tell your school administrator or designee for Disability Services about your need for accommodations if you want help.**

You may bring reports and information about your need for accommodations to your school administrator. Examples include medical, psychological or educational records or a vocational rehabilitation or support plan. The report(s) should have all of the following: description of how the disability affects learning, recommendations for specific strategies, and accommodations in education made necessary by the disability. Your request should be based on your current abilities as accommodation needs change over time.

**You are encouraged to tell your school administrator or designee for Disability Services about what has helped you learn in the past.**

You can learn better if you know how to help yourself. Become your own advocate. Provide information about your need for accommodations. All information will be kept confidential.

## What are accommodations?

**Accommodations** are changes made to help you learn the skill or do the work necessary for you to learn. They may include

- using different kinds of learning materials
- using special services
- needing special testing options
- needing adaptive equipment

**Accommodations should not** create an "undue hardship" for the center. You may not get the most expensive or "best" accommodation, just one that will help you do what needs to be done. Some of these accommodations may be appropriate for you in the classroom and test setting:

- extra time for testing and learning
- individual tests
- frequent rest breaks
- private work area
- calculators
- readers
- note takers
- oral or sign language interpreters
- tapes, large print or Braille
- taped, typed or dictated answers
- special class or test settings
- adaptive equipment
- written instructions
- assistive devices
- building access

**Remember: You are encouraged to speak to your school administrator or designee for Disability Services about your need for accommodations.**

Career, Technical & Adult/Community Education

## Numbers to call:


**Ask your teacher or school staff to check which numbers would be most helpful for you.**

American Printing House for the Blind, Inc.	1-800-223-1839
Americans with Disabilities Act Hotline	1-800-949-4232
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission	1-800-669-3362
Florida Literacy Hotline	1-800-237-5113
GED National 24-hour Hotline	1-800-626-9433
Job Accommodation Network	1-800-526-7234
National Library Services for the Blind and Physically Handicapped	1-800-424-8567
Social Security Administration	1-800-772-1213

### Local Numbers in Broward County:

Broward County Transit (TOPS/Special Needs)	954-357-6794
Agency for Persons with Disabilities	Admin 954-467-4218 Intake 954-467-4377
Division of Blind Services	954-497-3360
First Call for Help	954-537-0211
GED Testing Center	754-322-9941
Talking Book Library	954-357-7555
League for the Hard of Hearing (To Obtain TTY)	954-731-7200
Career, Technical and Adult/Community Education	754-321-2620
Vocational Rehabilitation	Ft. Laud 954-677-5600 Hollywood 954-893-5093

**For further information, contact your school administrator or designee for Disability Services.**

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**Broward County Public Schools**

# AN ADULT LEARNER WITH A DISABILITY?

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