# Accommodation Implications: Students with Mild-Moderate Disabilities in a General Education Setting

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### **Problem of Practice**

What developmental strategies can educators utilize to successfully execute IEP language so that accommodations can properly reflect higher implementation rates and academic outcomes?

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) was created to ensure all students eligible for special education services receive a free and appropriate education. Students who qualify for special education have a legally binding contract known as an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) as a template for providing an appropriate education in the least restrictive environment. One aspect of an IEP is the accommodations portion designed to improve educational equity for students with disabilities participating in a general education setting. Accommodations are supports meant to help create equity, making it possible for students with mild to moderate disabilities to participate meaningfully in classrooms with their typical peers (Byrnes, 2008). Used correctly, accommodations encourage learning equality by allowing students who have IEPs to have equal educational opportunities in the least restrictive environment.

# **Enacting Change**

First assess why change is needed in how students with IEPs receive accommodations. Assessing why change is needed; present evidence on barriers teachers face to providing accommodations to their students properly. Identify pros and cons be identified by possible change.

The second step is providing a vision for the change. This part of the process brings forward many options that a school can implement to benefit every teacher, including special education teachers. In this second step state what is working and what is not and how change can improve the non-working factors, including persuading the resisting parties.

The third step, identify a gap between the present and the future and close that gap: a Gap Analysis. This aims to bring leaders' attention to the gap and provide them with the necessary steps.

The final step is the action planning step, where change is implemented. Discuss who will implement changes and who is most affected by the changes. Use various techniques and tools to achieve a positive outcome.

#### ACCOMMODATIONS and MODIFICATIONS for CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION & ASSESSMENT **Ventura County SELPA** ACCOMMODATIONS and MODIFICATIONS for CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION & ASSESSMENT The accommodations listed below apply to all subjects and settings unless specified otherwise The accommodations listed below apply to all subjects and settings unless specified otherwis ections given one at a time eat at front of room penalty for spelling except on spelling tas Seat away from distractions/noi equent checks for understanding Seat near teacher irections given in a variety of wa Seat away from distractions/noise penalty for spelling except on spelling task ewer items on a page ten tasks presented in small chunks penalty for grammar unless a grammar task Warning before transitions Task presented in small chunks Test in resource room xtended time on tests xtended time to complete assignment ord processing application with spell check processing application with grammar check SELF-REGULATION ORGANIZATION / STUDY SKILLS PERSONAL CARE / EQUIPMEN Provide checklist of steps for tasks ate assignments accepted up to 5 school days Use of multiplication chart udy guides or sheets prior to test MODIFICATIONS needed: Note: modifications DO fundamentally alter or lower standards of course/test. Overall Report Card Type: Regular MODIFICATIONS needed: Note: modifications DO fundamentally alter or lower standards of course/test.

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# Selected Change Theory Beckhard & Harris' Change Management Process Why Change? Determining the Need for Change Determining the Degree of Choice about Whether to change Describe the Present State Getting From Here to There: Assessing the Present in terms of the Future to Determine the Work to be Done Managing During the Transition State

# Change Plan

- Professional development opportunities
- Collaboration time
- Restructure Directed Studies/Resource curriculum
- Communication between all members of the team, including students to develop self advocating skills
- Develop guidelines for the effective evaluation of students with disabilities

# Vision for Change

My Educational Improvement Plan aims to help make changes and improve procedures around accommodations for students participating in a general education program and their service providers.

# Next Step and Future Considerations

- Find available training/ professional development for teachers
- accommodations needs for each student explore a reasonable way to expect teachers to deliver multiple different accommodations for different students
- provide supervision, collaboration, and allow for more resources to be shared with resource teachers and general education teachers.
- Implement procedures for accommodations imposed are implemented and documented throughout the IEP team
- allowing the special education teacher and the classroom teacher to meet to plan the activities while including conversations on