

Guidance for Additional Testing for Students on a 504 plan West Linn-Wilsonville School District

Parents occasionally request additional cognitive or academic testing to support their application for services outside of the school district:

- accommodations on college admissions tests
- employment supports through Vocational Rehabilitation
- accommodations in post-secondary education

As part of our Circles of Support, we want to provide structures that guide and assist students on their college and career trajectories. If the Child Study Team or 504 Team determines that there are additional areas of suspected disability, we will do additional testing.

However, if there is no reason to suspect that there is an additional disability beyond the current eligibility, then we will not do additional testing.

Example Scenario

This question may come up for a high school junior or senior served by a 504 plan who is applying for accommodations in *college admissions testing or post-secondary education*. The initial testing for the 504 plan may have been conducted several years earlier (for example, when the student was in middle school). During annual reviews, the 504 team has determined that:

1. the disability continues to be present (and “substantially limits” access to education)
2. the current accommodations are appropriate to support the student’s access to K-12 education

Therefore, the team has determined that additional testing is *not necessary* to continue providing accommodations through a 504 plan.

The guidelines for supports through a college office of disability services or for accommodations on the SAT or ACT test may call for more recent testing (within the last 3 years, for example). Some parents have asked the school district to perform additional evaluations for the purpose of receiving accommodations for college admissions testing or in post-secondary education. The 504 team may agree with the parent that the student would benefit from those accommodations. However:

- because college admissions testing and post-secondary education are beyond the scope of K-12 education,
- if the current 504 plan is working for a student’s learning in their K-12 school, and
- there is no reason to suspect an additional disability, then

the WLWV district will not conduct additional evaluations.

Another way to think of this: If a student was not receiving 504 or SPED services and we did not have a reason to suspect a disability impacting their K-12 education, we would not conduct an evaluation for the purpose of establishing accommodations or supports for the student to access in college.

Families are welcome to seek outside evaluations to support their application for VR services or college testing accommodations. For students who do not have medical insurance, connecting families to the Oregon Health Plan may be a good step to help them find a primary care provider or specialist who can conduct additional assessments.