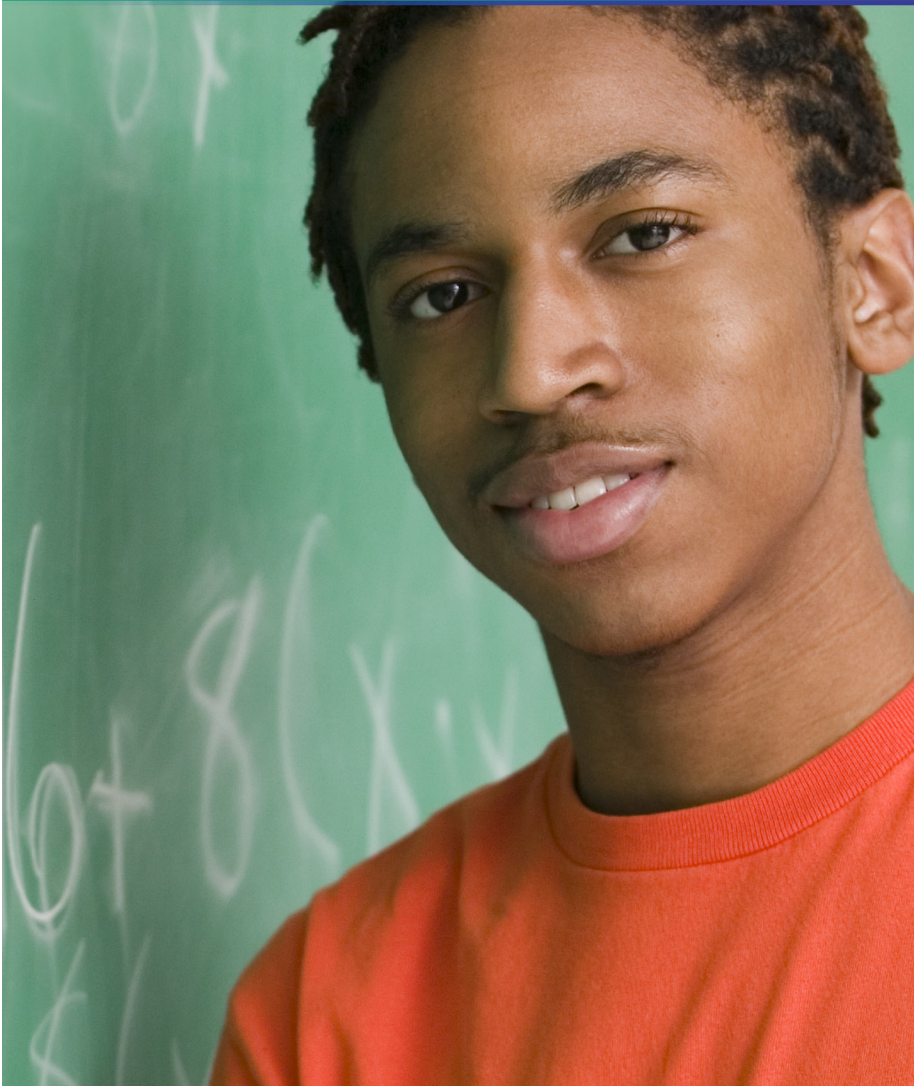


Parent Spotlight on 504 Plans and Common Core State Standards and Assessments



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Parent Spotlight on 504 Plans and Common Core State Standards and Assessments

This booklet was written to provide information to parents and others about 504 accommodation plans and the newly adopted academic standards, the Common Core State Standards.

What is a 504 plan?

A plan for providing accommodations to students who are protected by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is often called a 504 accommodation plan, or simply a 504 plan. Your child's accommodation plan is one aspect of the protections provided under Section 504.

How does a 504 plan relate to standards?

Section 504 is an anti-discrimination civil rights law that applies to programs and activities that receive federal financial assistance. It protects the rights of your child with a disability to have educational needs met just like they are met for students without disabilities. Standards are the basis for the curriculum that schools provide to its students. Students on 504 plans are to receive the accommodations and instruction that help them achieve success in a standards-based system.

What does my child's 504 plan have to do with the assessments my child takes?

The 504 plan should list the accommodations that your child needs to participate in assessments. These accommodations and possibly others should be provided during instruction as well.

What do I need to ask about 504 plans and the Common Core State Standards?

Important background information might include how the Common Core State Standards were considered in identifying the services that your child needs to succeed in school. Ask your child's teacher about the specific standards that are being addressed in the classroom. It would also be important to know how the standards were considered in determining the accommodations that your child receives in instruction and during assessments.



Where can I get more information on 504 plans and standards?

There are other booklets in this series. They are *Parent Spotlight on Common Core State Standards for Students with Disabilities* and *Parent Spotlight on Accommodations for Students with Disabilities*. These are available from NCEO (www.nceo.info) or from your state's department of education.

Information on Section 504 and 504 accommodation plans can be found on many websites, including that of the National Center on Learning Disabilities, NICHCY (www.nichcy.org) and the Office for Civil Rights (www.ed.gov/ocr).

