What Students Need To Know Now to Prepare for College

- There are no IEP's in college! Students can receive accommodations in specific classes based on their identified disability.
- You must self identify your disability. This means you must set an appointment to talk with disability services department of the college and provide the required documentation needed to meet eligibility requirements under the American Disabilities Act.
- Be prepared to talk about yourself and your disability. How does it affect your learning? Know your strengths and weaknesses and what works for you.
- Take the time in high school to learn and practice self-advocacy skills. When problems arise deal directly with your teachers to correct them (don't rely on mom and dad to do it for you). Lead your IEP and transition meetings.
- Assume responsibility for your learning now in high school. This means practicing good time management skills, study and note taking skills, etc. It is too easy to rely on reminders from the teachers about due dates, etc.
- Review your IEP and make sure the accommodations you receive you really need. Strive for independence as much as possible. You may be receiving fewer services in college so take time to prepare for that.
- Pay attention to your class schedule. Now is the time to take advanced or challenging classes to prepare you for the rigors of college.
- Do the research! Take time to investigate different colleges and what will be a good match for you. Plan to visit the campus and talk with other students about their experiences.