Helpful Disability Organizations Related to Higher Education

About: The Health Advocacy Summit has compiled a list of helpful organizations that are related to or work with students with disabilities who are in higher education. We have also provided links to some articles that we think are helpful. Many of the resources are online learning related, however, there are also a number of general college resources as well. Please note that even if an organization is specific to a certain condition, their resources still may be useful to you!

Overview of Organizations

- Accessible College
- ADA National Network
- AHEAD: Association on Higher Education and Disability
  - Black, Disabled, and Proud: College Students with Disabilities
  - DREAM: Disability Rights, Education, Activism, and Mentoring
  - National Center for College Students with Disabilities
- Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation
  - Campus Connection
  - National Council of College Leaders
- College Diabetes Network
- Epilepsy Foundation
- Invisible Disabilities Association
- Learning Disabilities Association of America
- National Center for Learning Disabilities
- National Deaf Center
- National Federation of the Blind
  - National Association of Blind Students Division

Please contact us at programs@healthadvocacysummit.org with any questions, comments, concerns, or additional resources. If any links are not working, please email us with the subject line “Disability Groups Link.”

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The Health Advocacy Summit, Inc. (HAS) is a recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit that was created to connect and empower young adults with chronic and rare diseases through advocacy events and online programs.

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Accessible College
Website: accessiblecollege.com
“Accessible College provides guidance to students and families to make the most of a student’s college experience. We will help navigate through the process of touring and applying to colleges and interacting with student services to advocate for a student’s needs and accommodations. We assist students in developing enduring self-advocacy and life skills that serve them well beyond higher education.”

Helpful Resources from Accessible College
Blog
- COVID-19 and College Accommodations
- COVID-19: Assessing Virtual College Tours for Students with Disabilities
- Webinar - College Prep for Students with Disabilities
- Webinar - Students with Disabilities: Standardized Tests, College Tours, and Applications in the Age of COVID-19

ADA National Network
Website: adata.org
“Information, guidance, and training on the Americans with Disabilities Act.”

Helpful Resources from the ADA National Network
Education
- Exams and Courses
- Postsecondary Institutions and Students with Disabilities Fact Sheet
- Public and Private College/University Responsibilities to Disabled Students

AHEAD: Association on Higher Education and Disability
Website: ahead.org
“AHEAD is the leading professional membership association for individuals committed to equity for persons with disabilities in higher education.”

Organizations Associated with AHEAD
Black, Disabled, and Proud: College Students with Disabilities
Website: blackdisabledandproud.org
 “[The HBCU Disability Consortium is] identifying ways to provide culturally responsive disability services and classroom instruction to Black and African American college students with disabilities on all campuses in the U.S. By offering resources, a sense of history and community, support for students’ multiple identities, and advice to those supporting and mentoring students, we’re also trying to increase the number of Black and African American students with disabilities going to college, staying in college, and graduating.”

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DREAM: Disability Rights, Education, Activism, and Mentoring
Website: dreamcollegedisability.org
“DREAM (Disability Rights, Education, Activism, and Mentoring) is a national organization for and by college students with disabilities... We strongly advocate for disability culture, community, and pride, and hope to serve as an online virtual disability cultural center for students who want to connect with other students.”

National Center for College Students with Disabilities (NCCSD)
Website: nccsdonline.org
 “[The National Center for College Students with Disabilities] is the only federally-funded national center in the U.S. for college and graduate students with any type of disability, chronic health condition, or mental, or emotional illness.”

Helpful Resources from the National Center for College Students with Disabilities
The NCCSD Clearinghouse and Resource Library
● Campus Grievance Procedures Explained
● Coronavirus: COVID-19 & College Students with Disabilities
● Preparing for Fall Semester 2020
● Prove it! What is Disability “Documentation”?
● Solving Problems with Services on Campus and Creating Change
● The Disability Resource Center on Campus

College Diabetes Network (CDN)
Website: collegediabetesnetwork.org
“The College Diabetes Network (CDN) is focused on providing young adults with T1D the peer connections they value, and expert resources they need, to successfully manage the challenging transition to independence at college and beyond.”

Helpful Resources from the College Diabetes Network
Resource Hub
● Diabetes Check Sheet for Professors
● Family Communications Agreement: Finishing Your Semester at Home (2020)
● Finishing your Semester at Home (2020)
● Having “The Talk” (with Friends and Roommates)
● Looking at Schools Guide
● Registering for Accommodations on Campus Guide
● Request for Materials
  ○ Off to College with Diabetes for Students
  ○ Guide for Student Health Services
  ○ Guide for Campus Counseling Services
  ○ Guide for Campus Disability Services

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Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation
Website: crohnscolitisfoundation.org
“The Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation is a non-profit, volunteer-fueled organization dedicated to finding cures for Crohn’s disease and ulcerative colitis, and improving the quality of life of children and adults affected by these diseases.”

Organizations Associated with the Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation

Campus Connection
Website: crohnscolitisfoundation.org/campus-connection
Resources for college students with Crohn’s disease and ulcerative colitis.

Helpful Resources from Campus Connection
Navigating College
- Choosing your College
- Dorm Life
- Finding Support on Campus
- Registering for Classes
- Social Life
- Talking to your Professors
- Talking to your Roommates

National Council of College Leaders (NCCL)
Website: crohnscolitisfoundation.org/national-council-college-leaders
“National Council of College Leaders (NCCL) works to increase awareness of Crohn’s disease and ulcerative colitis through youth-focused advocacy and fundraising.”

Epilepsy Foundation
Website: epilepsy.com
“The mission of the Epilepsy Foundation is to lead the fight to overcome the challenges of living with epilepsy and to accelerate therapies to stop seizures, find cures, and save lives.”

Helpful Resources from the Epilepsy Foundation
Living With Epilepsy: Epilepsy and Young People
- Attending a College
- Choosing a College
- The Rights of College Students with Disabilities

Invisible Disabilities Association
Website: invisibledisabilities.org
“The mission of the Invisible Disabilities Association is to encourage, educate and connect people and organizations touched by illness, pain and disability around the globe.”

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Learning Disabilities Association of America (LDA)
Website: ldaamerica.org
“LDA’s mission is to create opportunities for success for all individuals affected by learning disabilities through support, education, and advocacy.”

Helpful Resources from the Learning Disabilities Association of America
COVID-19 Resource Center
- Apps for Accessibility
- College Student Rights
- Remote Learning and College Students with Learning Disabilities

National Center for Learning Disabilities (NCLD)
Website: ncld.org
“[The NCLD is] working to create a society in which every individual possesses the academic, social and emotional skills needed to succeed in school, at work and in life.”

Helpful Resources from the National Center for Learning Disabilities
Resources & Tools: COVID-19: Young Adult Resources
- Learning During COVID-19: How to Survive Digital Learning with LD

National Deaf Center
Website: nationaldeafcenter.org
“The National Deaf Center’s mission is to close the substantial gaps in education and employment that exist for deaf people in the United States and its territories.”

Helpful Resources from the National Deaf Center
Resources
- Meeting the Needs of Deaf College Students
- Remote Access Services: Tips for Students
- Take Control of Your Online Learning: Tips for Deaf College Students
- Using Hearing Assistive Devices at Home: 5 Tips for Deaf College Students

National Federation of the Blind (NFB)
Website: nfb.org
“Through our network of blind members, we coordinate many programs, services, and resources to defend the rights of blind Americans, provide information and support to blind children and adults, and build a community that creates a future full of opportunities.”

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Helpful Resources from the National Federation of the Blind

Resources
- Don't Be a Barrier: Be Accessible NOW
  - AccessibleNOW Campaign Page
- Self Advocacy in Higher Education Toolkit

Organizations Associated with the National Federation of the Blind

NFB: National Association of Blind Students Division
Website: nabslink.org
“For over 50 years, the National Association of Blind Students has worked, as an integral part of the National Federation of the Blind, to promote the equality of the blind by serving as a source of information, forum for networking and vehicle for collective action for blind students. Our work on the local, state, and national levels is firmly rooted in the conviction that blindness need not prevent one from excelling in a chosen field of study or living a full and productive life. Above all else, we are dedicated to changing what it means to be blind, by both changing perceptions among the general public of the capabilities of the blind and encouraging blind students to achieve their maximum potential and realize their dreams.”

Helpful Resources from the National Association of Blind Students

Online Accessibility Resources for COVID-19
- Online Accessibility Resources
  - Inaccessibility in Online Education Support Form