

## Accommodations vs. Modifications

Accommodations and modifications are types of adaptations that are made to the environment, curriculum, instruction, or assessment practices in order for students with disabilities to be successful learners and to actively participate with other students in the general education classroom and in school-wide activities.

Accommodations are changes in how a student accesses information and demonstrates learning. Accommodations do not substantially change the instructional level, content, or performance criteria. The changes are made in order to provide a student with equal access to learning and an equal opportunity to show what he or she knows and can do.

### **Accommodations can include changes in the following:**

- presentation of a lesson
- instructional strategies
- student response format and procedures
- time/scheduling
- environment
- equipment
- assignment structure-paper/pencil work

Modifications are changes in what a student is expected to learn. The changes are made to provide a student with opportunities to participate meaningfully and productively along with other students in classroom and school learning experiences.

### **Modifications include changes in the following:**

- instructional level
- content/curriculum
- performance criteria
- assignment structure-paper/pencil work

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This information was researched by staff of RFECY and is adapted from:

[http://www.alexandria.k12.mn.us/cms/lib01/MN01000334/Centricity/Domain/22/Accommodations and Modifications Guide.pdf](http://www.alexandria.k12.mn.us/cms/lib01/MN01000334/Centricity/Domain/22/Accommodations%20and%20Modifications%20Guide.pdf)

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