

Hi Ms. H _____,

My name is _____. I am in your second hour cooking class. I am a person with a disability. I want to talk to you about my disability and learning style because it will help me be more successful in your class.

I'm a student with a mild developmental cognitive disability (DCD/M). Sometime people call DCD mild intellectual disabilities. Student with mild intellectual disabilities usually have slower development in academic, social, and adaptive skills when compared with students who are not identified with intellectual disabilities.

Because students who are identified with mild intellectual disabilities are behind grade-level peers in developing academic skills they are likely to be delayed in language skills and in learning to read and learning basic math skills. This means they will also have trouble in other academic areas where those skills are used.

Students with intellectual disabilities are behind classmates in academic areas throughout their school years. Many students with mild intellectual disabilities will learn basic reading, writing, and math skills. Most of their learning is functional related to real life needs like learning about money, time, and measurement.

The things I find difficult in school are reading, writing, spelling and math. Figuring out large words is hard for me. Before I start reading, I need to hear and see the words. Text to speech programs are very helpful. Spelling is very hard for me. To write papers, I need someone to write what I say. Instead of writing long papers, it would be better for me make a poster or to just tell you about what I have learned. Multiplying and diving large numbers is hard for me. Using a calculator is very helpful.

This is how I learn:

- I am a visual numerical learner. I have to see numbers on the board, in a book, or on paper to work with them. I am more likely to understand math facts if I have seen them.
- I am an auditory language learner. I learn from hearing words. I will understand and remember something better if I hear it.
- I am a tactile kinesthetic learner. I learn best by doing. I definitely need to work with things as well as to see them and hear about them. I also pay attention better if I am working with things.
- I am a social group learner. I do best when I work with other people and learn from them as well.
- I am an Expressiveness oral learner. It is easiest if I can tell you what I know. I am nervous about giving reports giving reports to big groups, but can easily talk to the teacher or a couple classmates.

I am a student with an individualized education program (IEP). These are my accommodations and modifications that help me in my classes:

- I need to sit nearest to where the teacher is presenting.
- I will repeat opportunities to practice new concepts.
- I will use modified or alternative curriculum in language arts, math, reading and science.
- Hands on opportunities will be available as well as visual prompts when possible.
- I may retake tests that I earn or a D or less within two school days of receiving my results.
- I may turn in assignments up to two school day past the due date with notice given to the teacher prior to the due date.
- I can use alternative methods to express what I have learned.

I hope that this will give you a better understanding of my abilities and needs. I want to work together and I want to do well in your class room. If you have any questions I will be happy to talk with you or you can talk to my case manager, Mr. D_____at extension 312.

Sincerely,

D_____ T_____