

Accommodation Update

IPDAE

October 2018



Agenda

- Overview
- Testing Accommodations
- Documentation
- Helping Strategies
- Questions



Accommodations Overview



Purpose
Accommod

alized
ration



Appr
Docurr

What's considered a disability?



**Learning and
Other
Cognitive
Disabilities**



**Attention
Deficit
Hyperactivity
Disorder**



**Psychological
and
Psychiatric
Disorders**



**Physical
Disorders and
Chronic
Health
Conditions**

What is NOT considered a disability?

ESL

“Slow Learner”

Active substance abuser

Test anxiety

Homemade diagnoses

New Features

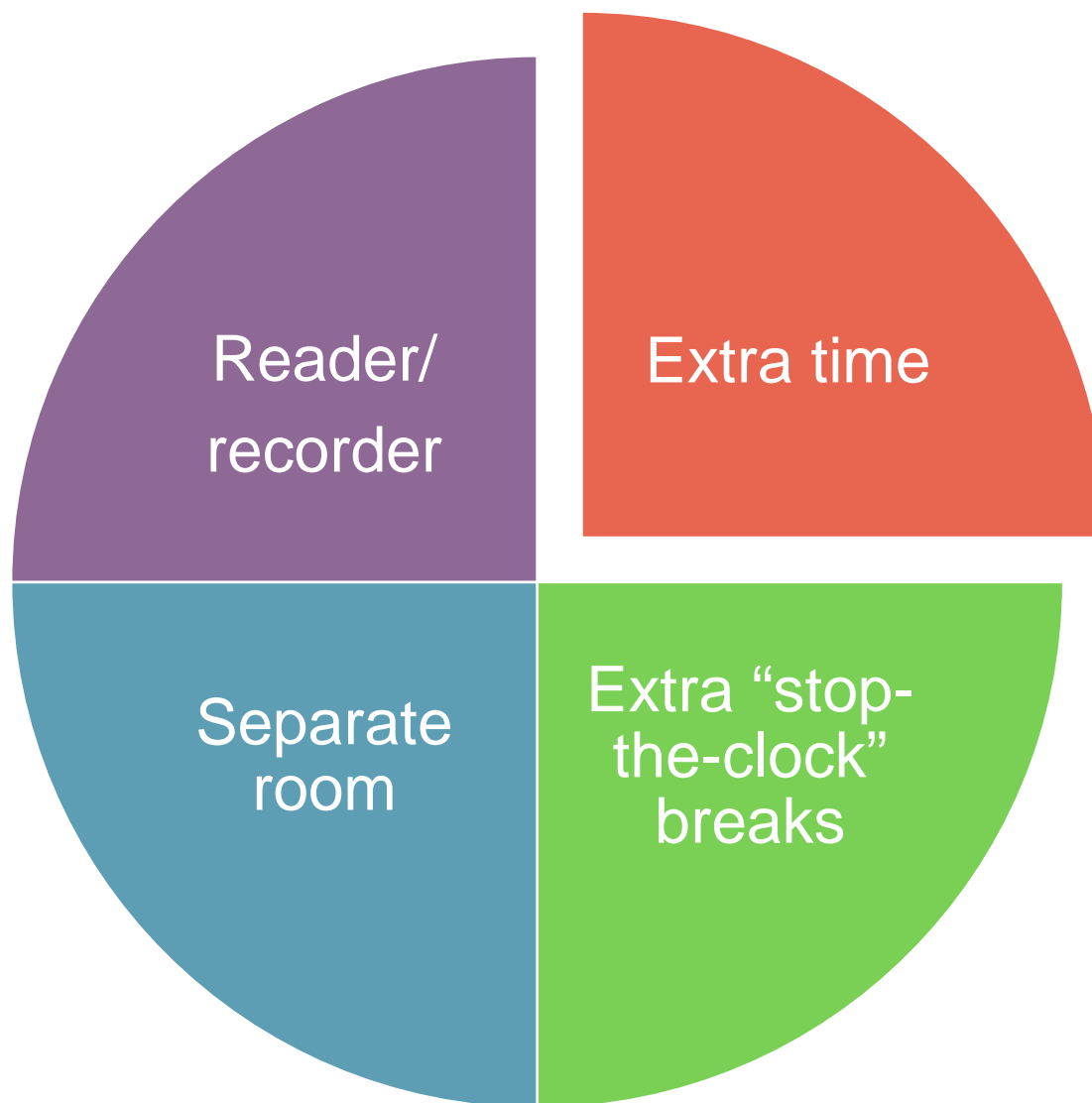
Online Request System

- Candidates can request accommodations online. Starts with them clicking “yes” to the accommodation question on GED.com

Web Scheduling

- Candidates with approvals of extra time, breaks and other things that do not require manual intervention are now directed to schedule online.

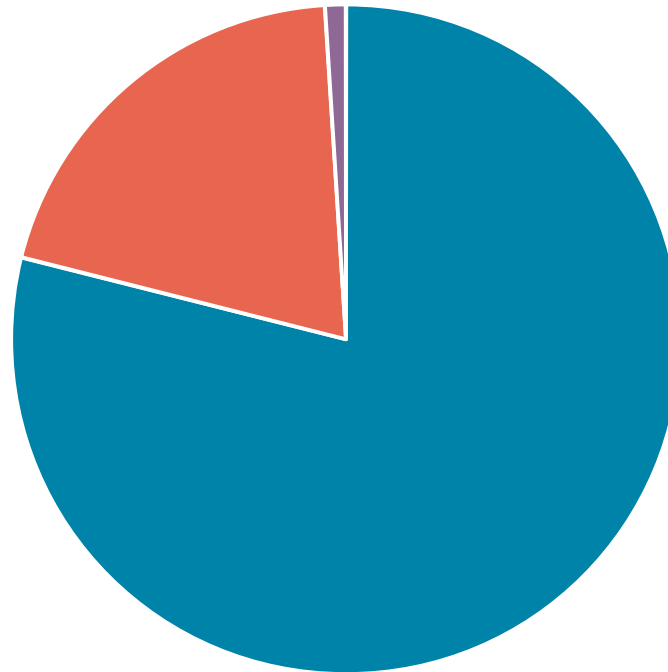
Commonly Requested Accommodations



2018 Accommodation Determinations (through August)

Total Requests: 3,389

[CATEGORY
NAME]
680 Applications
[PERCENTAGE]



Not approved
34 Applications
[PERCENTAGE]

[CATEGORY
NAME]
2675
[PERCENTAGE]

■ Approved ■ Incomplete ■ Not approved

Assistive Technology

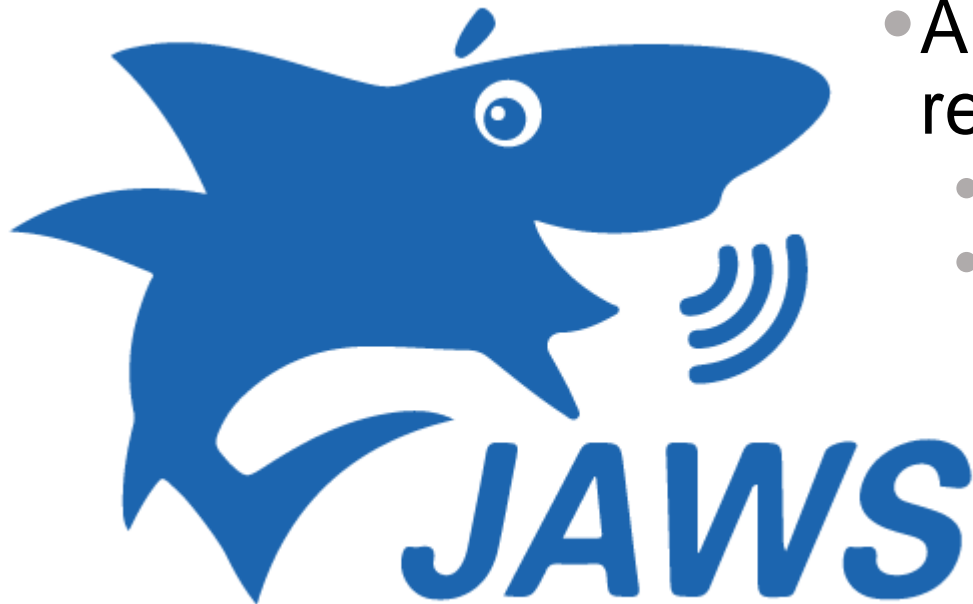
Universal
Access
features

Adaptive
equipment

Magnification

JAWS

JAWS – Job Access With Speech



- Availability
- Proficiency requirements
- Approved candidates receive:
 - Free practice test link
 - keyboard shortcut reference

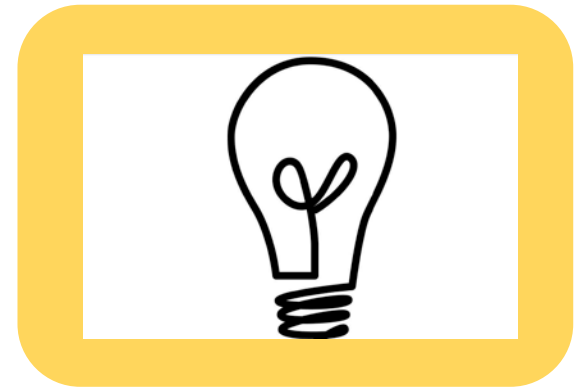
Emerging Trends in Accommodations and Accessibility



Accommodation
vs Fundamental
Alteration



Accommodations
vs Security



Non-standard
requests

Ensuring Tester and Staff Security



- Threats to safety
- Candidate misbehavior in the test center
- Managing potentially dangerous candidates

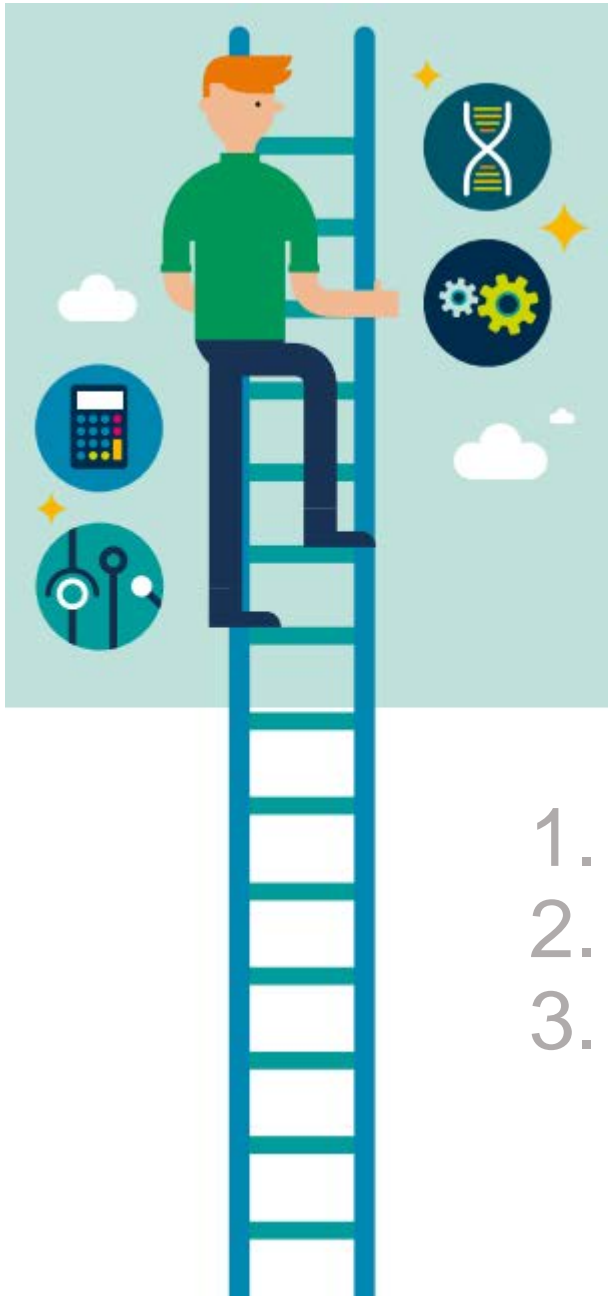
GEDTS Accommodation Review Process

- Who reviews requests?
- Where are the documentation guidelines?
- How do we make a determination?
 - Consider all documentation
 - Continual calibration
 - Written explanations



Incomplete Documentation

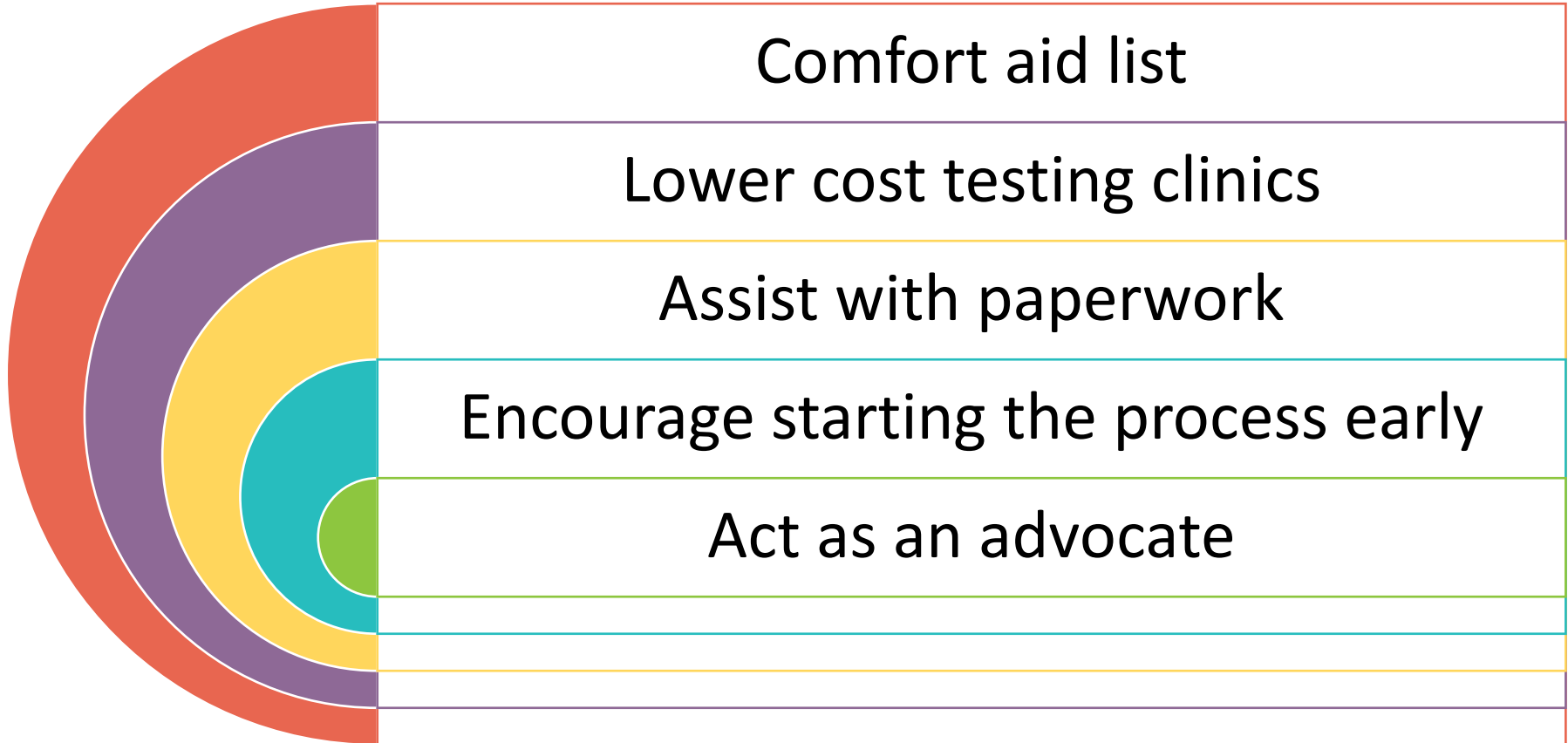




Top 3 causes of an incomplete application

1. No supporting documentation
2. Missing pages
3. Outdated documentation

How can you help your students?



Examples of Unacceptable Evaluators

- Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist
- Pastoral Counselor
- School Counselor
- Family physician (learning disabilities)
- Teacher
- Parent
- Neighbor



Outer Limits of Accommodations

The accommodation cannot be so extreme that test validity is compromised

- 6X standard time

The accommodation cannot fundamentally alter the test's purpose

- Waiving a portion of the test

The accommodation cannot jeopardize test security or the safety of staff/others

- Testing at home
- Administer medical care

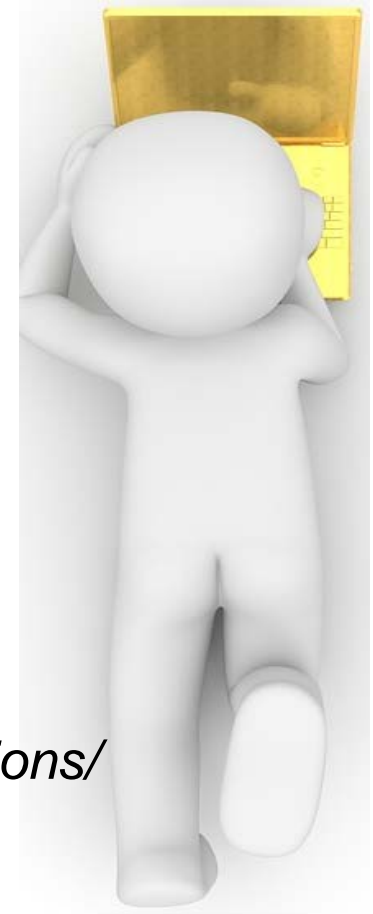
The Path to Request Accommodations

Using the Reasonable Adjustment Request System



Online Request System

- **Benefits**
 - Paper forms are replaced with 6 easy steps
 - Immediate feedback
 - Secure environment
 - No need to pay for faxing services
- *Paper request forms available at https://ged.com/educators_admins/test_admin/corrections/*



Resources

- Accommodation page
https://ged.com/about_test/accommodations/
- Paper request forms
https://ged.com/educators_admins/test_admin/corrections/
- Contact accommodation department
accommodations@ged.com



Questions?

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