



# Accommodations

VS.

# Modifications

## Accommodations

An **accommodation** is a **support or service that is provided to allow a student the opportunity to fully access the general education curriculum**. Accommodations provided during classroom instruction and assessments must also be provided during state assessments, if permitted. Accommodations can:

- Change how a child learns or accesses the curriculum;
- Alter the way materials are presented;
- Modify the way a student can respond;
- Allow students with disabilities the opportunity to complete the same curricular activities as peers;
- Keep the objectives of the content or activity intact;
- Enable the student to bypass the effects of the disability; and/or
- Help remove barriers.

## Modifications

**Modifications** are **changes to course content, required work, or the instructional level**. Modifications change the learning goal for an individual student and may be used when the general curriculum is deemed too advanced. Modifications can:

- Change what a child is taught or expected to do in school;
- Help individualized changes be applied to the content and performance expectations for a student;
- Change the complexity level of information;
- Modify the course or activities/objectives to meet the needs of the learner;
- Allow a student with a more significant learning need to experience the same curriculum as their peers, but with different learning outcomes; and/or
- Utilize different grading criteria and/or credits received compared to peers.

When a course is modified, the student is no longer able to earn a course credit. They will instead earn an applied unit, which is an eligible unit for the Indiana Alternate Diploma. If the student wishes to retake the course for a credit, they may do so in order to continue towards a Core 40 or General Diploma. Contact the Indiana Department of Education's Office of Special Education with additional questions.