

Accommodation Update

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Agenda

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



Accommodations Overview



Purpose of
Accommodations



Not a Guarantee
of improvement



Individualized
Consideration



Appropriate
Documentation

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

Accommodation vs Accessibility

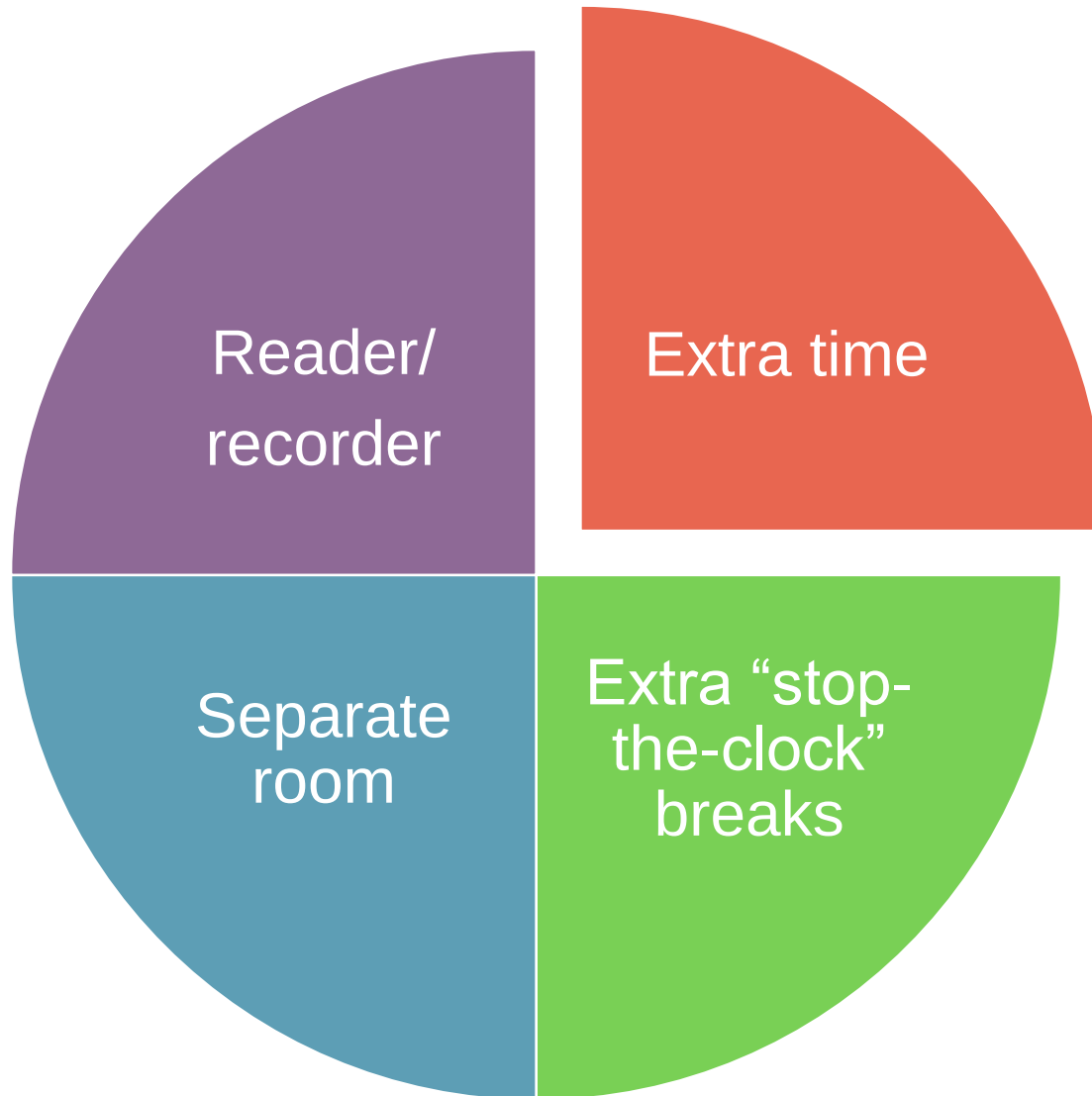
Accommodation

- Modifications for an individual tester based on a specific disability

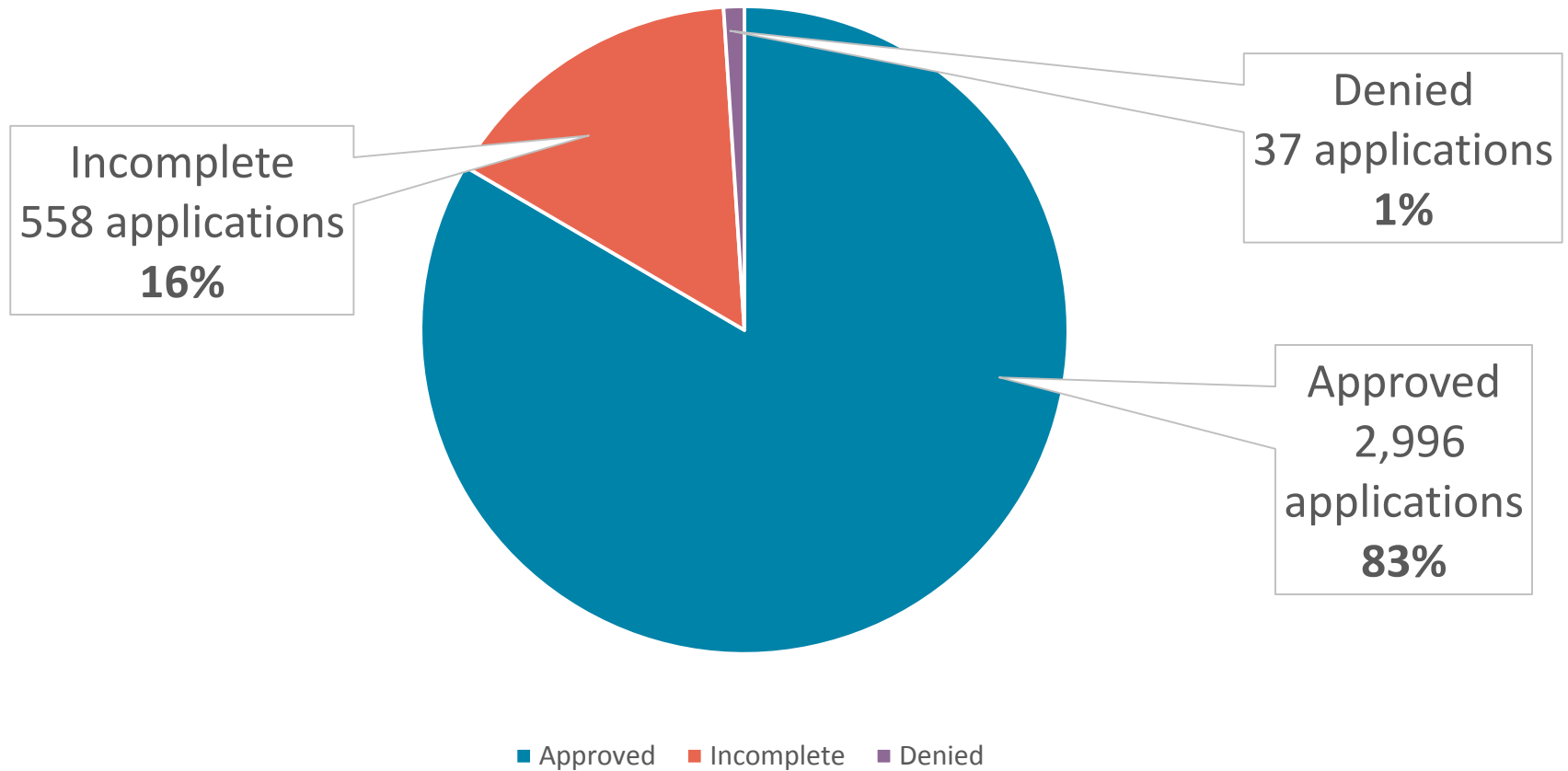
Accessibility

- Universal access features available to all testers

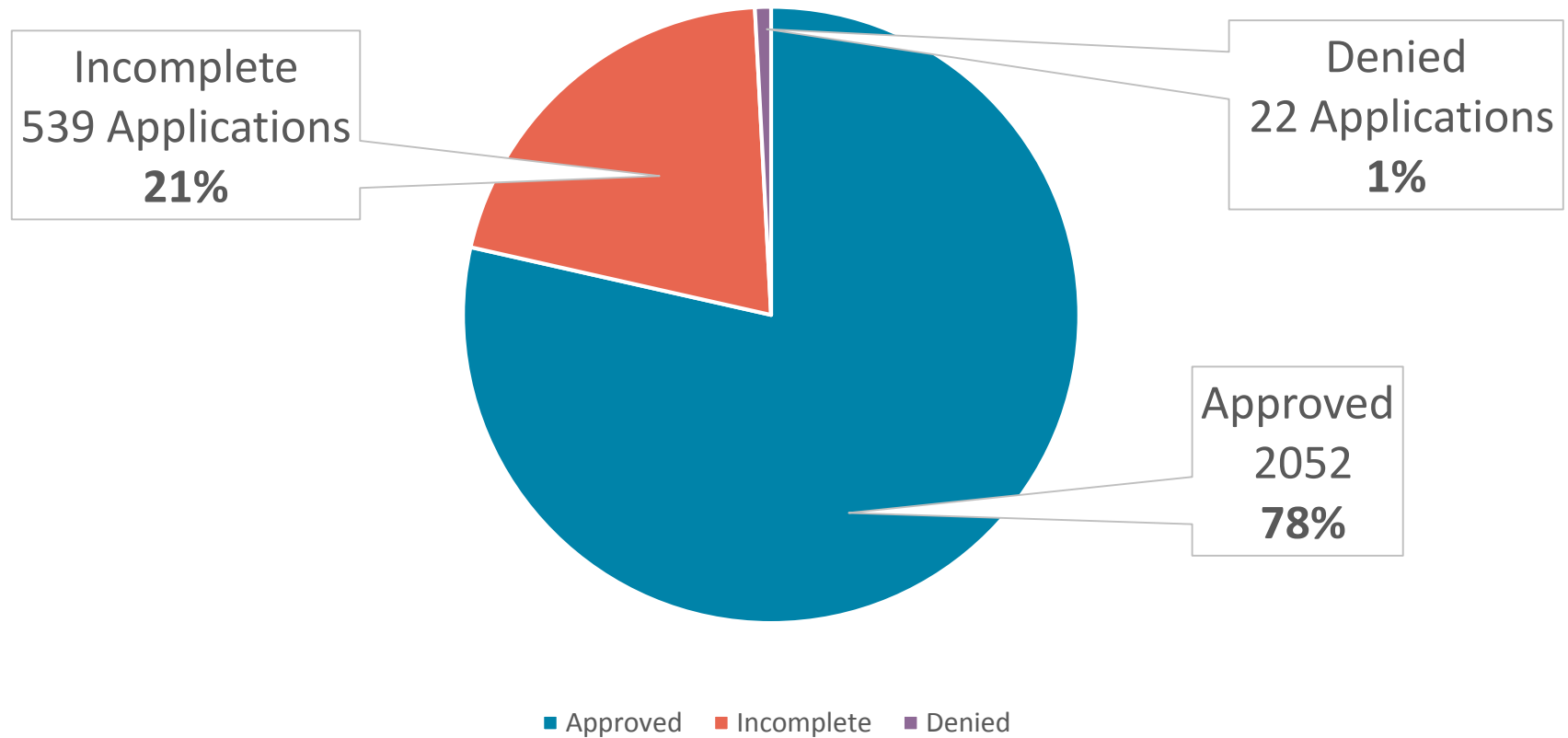
Commonly Requested Accommodations



2017 Accommodation Determinations



2018 Accommodation Determinations (through June)



Assistive Technology

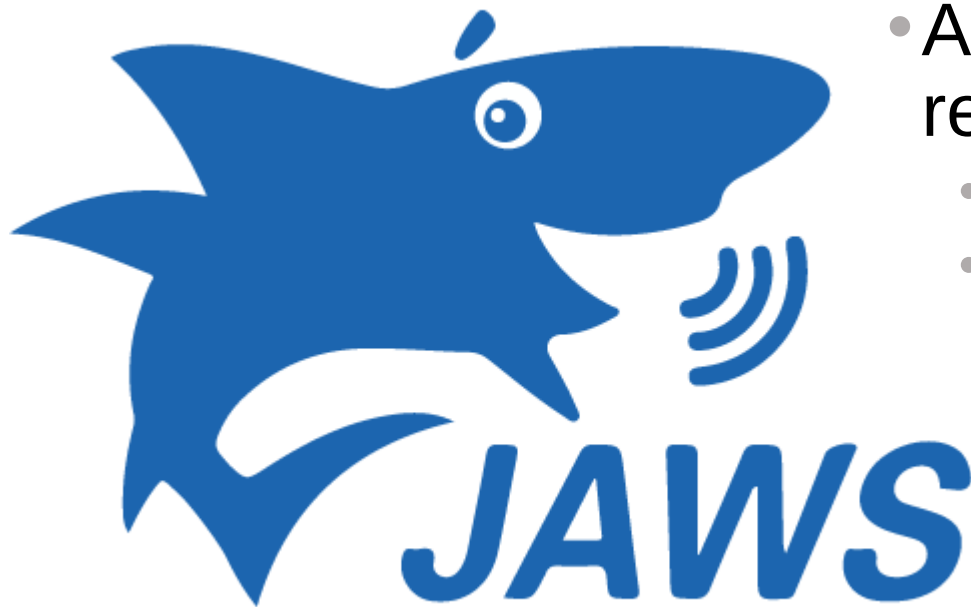
Universal
Access
features

Adaptive
equipment

Magnification

JAWS

JAWS – Job Access With Speech



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

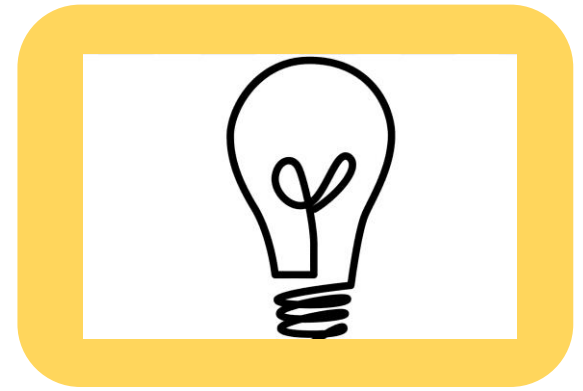
Emerging Trends in Accommodations and Accessibility



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

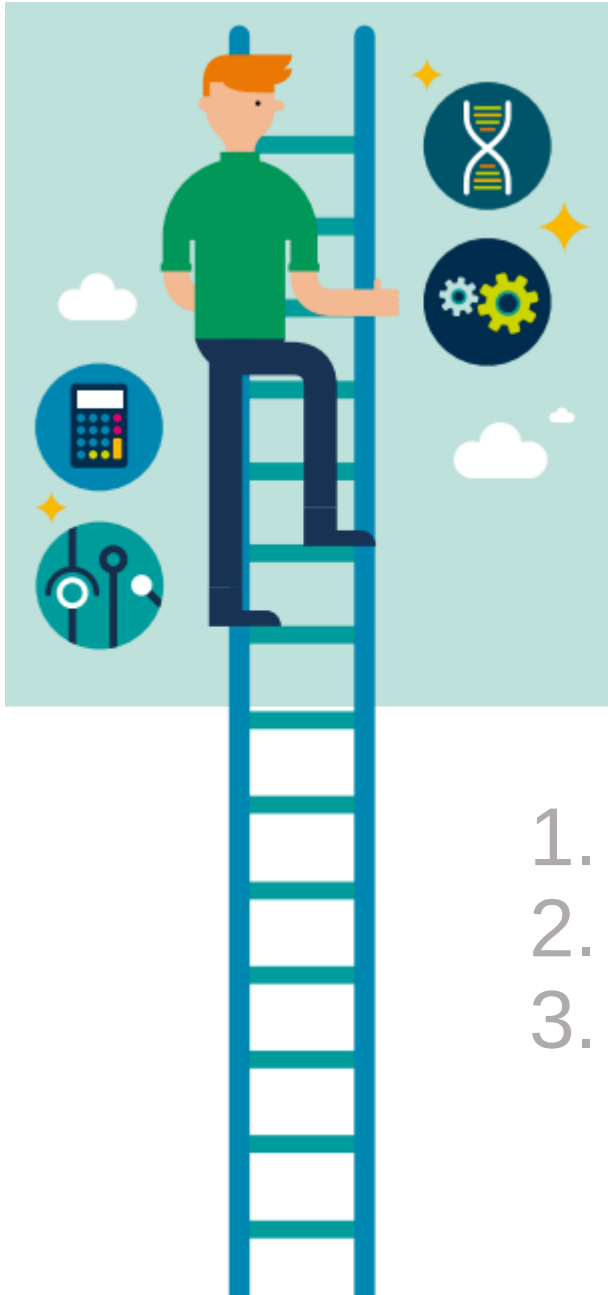
GEDTS Accommodation Review Process

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



Incomplete Documentation

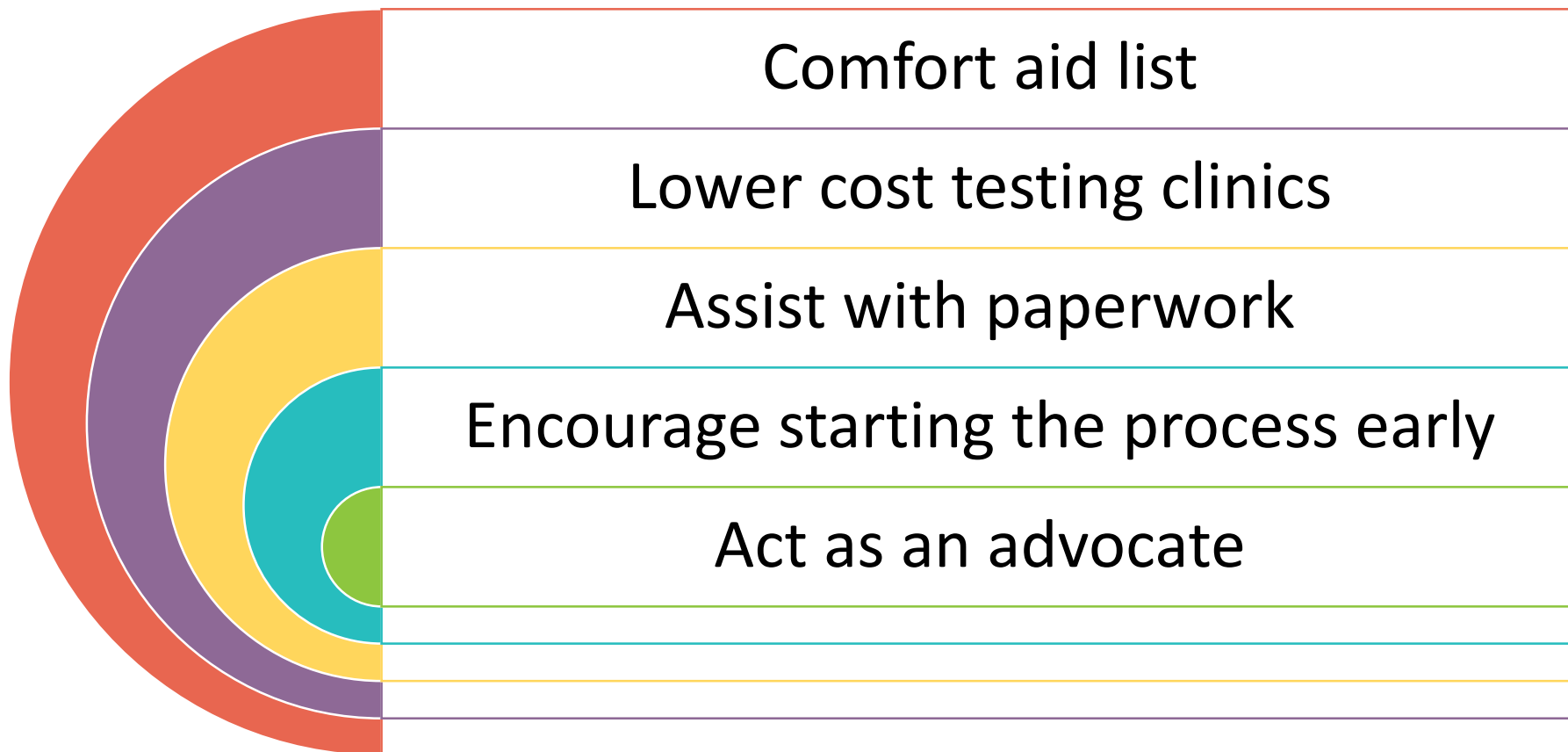




Top 3 causes of an incomplete application

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

How can you help your students?



Examples of Unacceptable Requests

Candidate wants
to take the test
at home

Candidate wants
his father to
proctor the exam

Candidate wants
to use friend as
the reader

Candidate wants
to test on her
laptop

Candidate asks
for “unlimited
time”

Candidate asks
for “extra time”

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

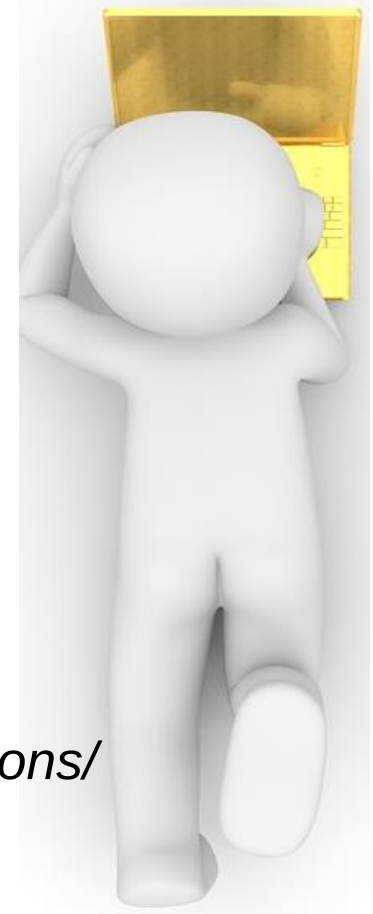
The Path to Request Accommodations

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/



Questions?

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