

Writing

ACCOMMODATIONS

Each student is an individual learner, so the accommodation examples below will not be needed by all students. The team should consider those that support the student's needs to allow for accessing content.

Written Expression (Idea Generation, Organization, Composition)

- Graphic organizers for planning (e.g., webs, outlines, story maps)
- Sentence starters or writing frames
- Allow oral responses or dictation to an adult or speech-to-text tool
- Break writing tasks into smaller, manageable steps
- Provide exemplars or models of expected writing
- Allow extended time for writing assignments and assessments
- Reduce writing load (e.g., fewer sentences, shorter essays) without reducing content expectations
- Offer checklists for revising and editing
- Allow the use of digital tools for drafting and revising
- Provide teacher-guided brainstorming before independent writing

Handwriting (Letter Formation, Legibility, Motor Skills)

- Allow typing instead of handwriting for longer assignments
- Provide pencil grips, slant boards, or adaptive writing tools
- Offer graph paper or lined paper with raised or highlighted lines
- Reduce the amount of required handwritten work
- Allow extra time for handwritten tasks
- Teach handwriting explicitly in small groups or one-on-one
- Provide copies of notes or access to digital notes
- Allow the student to demonstrate knowledge verbally
- Use alternative formats (multiple choice, matching) instead of written responses
- Allow the student to write on the computer or tablet during assessments

Spelling (Encoding, Phonetic Awareness, Application)

- Access to word banks, personal dictionaries, or spelling reference sheets
- Allow spell-check tools or predictive text when appropriate
- Reduce the number of spelling words or focusing on functional vocabulary
- No penalty for spelling errors in content-based assignments
- Provide explicit instruction in phonics and spelling patterns
- Allow oral spelling assessments
- Pre-teach vocabulary before writing tasks
- Highlight or review commonly misspelled words
- Allow students to use speech-to-text tools for longer writing tasks
- Offer multiple opportunities to practice spelling in meaningful contexts