



Kids As Self Advocates

On the College Front

by [Maia Wroblewski](#)

What is college really like for a person with a disability? Pretty much the same as a person without a disability, or at least this has been my experience. I have had to make a few arrangements to inform my professors about my disability and the accommodations I need, but I have enjoyed being "just another freshman." Its not the best label in the world but it's better than "that girl with a disability." I chose to go to a very large school, the University of Wisconsin - Madison. Although it can be overwhelming sometimes, it has really been nice to just blend in. It is amazing how different college is from high school. You have so much freedom, you almost don't know what to do with yourself. The classes are harder, but they are for a shorter time during the day, and I can choose the time of each class. It allows me to plan around my schedule and my needs.

I recommend that if you do have a disability that you contact the disability center on the college campus. They are experienced people who have helped many other students receive an equal education. It is a really helpful step in your college education. The dorms are really awesome and I suggest that if you have the choice to live there that you take it. I have met some really cool people, and have created some really cool study groups with people from my dorm. The dorm also allows you to have some freedom from your parental units, you decide what you eat, when you go to bed, and how your room looks, its great! Parties? I haven't really attended a lot of parties, but as long as you use good judgment they are really fun.

Class is okay, and the professors are definitely interesting. My suggestion is to sit in front of the classroom. The first row, or aisle seat (called the T-zone) will allow the professor to see you, without you having to answer questions. If you do ask a question, that's even better, the professor is more likely to remember you as "the student who paid attention." Well, that's all I have for now, but I'm sure there will be more.

Maia is a freshman in college and has been advocating for herself since she was two. Maia is co-chair of the KASA board. Let us know what you think, send an email to info@fvkasa.org attn: Maia. Read more about Maia by clicking [here](#).

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