

PURPOSE: To add a clear section in the MSMS Student Handbook that provides a brief explanation for academic and financial accommodations.

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BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL FOR MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE SENATE:

~~**For students who have not had the opportunity for accommodations at their home schools**~~

SECTION ONE (REASONING):

MSMS offers academic accommodations through Section 504 and financial support through the MSMS Foundation, but these aren't clearly explained in one place. The information is hard to find and scattered Section 504 is on page 26 and financial waivers are on page 9 of the PDF. This can leave students unsure of what support exists or how to ask for it.

Adding a short section that directly explains these accommodations and points to the full details will make the process clearer and more accessible. This doesn't change any policies—it just organizes them better.

With this new opportunity for MSMS it allows for more vulnerability to students to really express all that MSMS can offer.

SECTION TWO (SPECIFIC CHANGE):

On page 26 of the Student Handbook [(PDF pages 32- 33) (under General Policies)], add the following:

ACADEMIC AND FINANCIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

Students have the right to request accommodations if they are facing challenges related to learning or finances which might prohibit

- **Academic Accommodations**
Students with disabilities, ~~including ADD/ADHD or and other chronic conditions,~~ can request academic accommodation under Section 504. These may include extended test time, alternate assignments, or assistive tech. To request, contact your testing coordinator. Full policy enforcement is on page 26 of the handbook.
- **Financial Accommodations**
Students who cannot pay required fees may apply for help through the MSMS Foundation or request a federal waiver. Forms are available at New Student Orientation and on the MSMS website. Details are on page 9 of the handbook.

- Contact the Director for Academic Affairs (academic support) or the Director for Student Affairs (financial support) to start a request or ask any questions.

SECTION THREE (APPENDIX):

Student Anonymous Response 1:

“This would have helped many students, lots of students don’t have the resources for a 504 plan coming from their old schools”