

Andrew College

The Focus Program

- Empowering students to meet the challenge!





Our Philosophy

- **The mission of Andrew College is to provide an academically challenging liberal arts curriculum within a nurturing community. The mission of The Focus Program is to empower our students to meet the challenge at Andrew College through the development of personal control coupled with academic learning. The Focus Program facilitates the learning process for students with learning disabilities by promoting self-determination, self advocacy, and self-efficacy through self-directed learning. We believe in “teaching students how to learn.”**

Focus Serves...

- Students with documented learning disabilities
- Students with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorders





Common Characteristics of our students....

- Intelligent
- Talented
- Motivated
- Personable
- Hardworking
- Dedicated



Problem areas for our students..

- Cognitive Processing and Executive Functioning
- Reading Skills
- Written Language Skills
- Expressive/Receptive Language Skills
- Mathematical Skills
- Organizational and Study Skills
- Social Skills
- AD/HD
- Co-morbid Disorders



How Focus can help...

- Provides a safe, nurturing environment where students experience a sense of belongingness and learn to develop self-advocacy skills while mastering their academic goals.

What Focus Can and Cannot

Do....



We can...

- Provide a nurturing learning community
- Provide support and encouragement
- Assist students in becoming more autonomous
- Assist students in reaching their academic, social, and personal goals

We cannot...

- **Guarantee grades**
- **Force students to learn**
- **Force students to participate**
- **Do the “work” for students**

The Focus Staff

■ Consists of a team of multidisciplinary professionals with graduate degrees and experience in:

- Secondary and Postsecondary education
- Math and Science Education, History, Humanities, English, Criminal Justice, Government, Business, Psychology
- Special Education
- Counseling Psychology/Guidance Counseling/Social Work
- Psychiatric Inpatient/Rehabilitation/ Coaching





The Focus Director

- Oversees the Focus Program
- Coordinates disability services on the Andrew Campus
- Keeps abreast of research/educational developments with learning disabilities and AD/HD and legal decisions and rulings that impact students
- Monitors each student's progress
- Serves as the academic advisor for Focus students

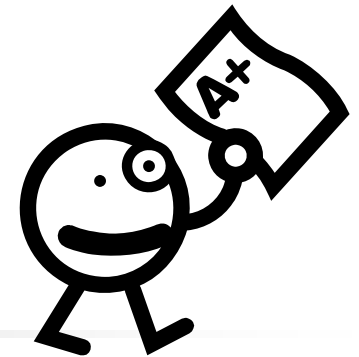


Reasonable Accommodations

- Taping of class lectures
- Use of calculators, dictionaries, word processors
- Alternative test format (oral reader, scribe, scantron assistance)
- Extended time on tests
- Distraction-free testing environment
- Other accommodations may be recommended upon review of the appropriate documentation and/or as specified in the psychological and/or psychoeducational evaluation



Focus Provides...



- A study/mentoring lab that is open 55-60 hours per week
- Testing center with non-standard testing accommodations
- Private computer lab
- Assistive technology
- Auxiliary aids
- Resource materials, study guides, lab supplies
- Priority registration
- Focus Director acts as academic advisor
- Interim grade reports
- Parent/Director communication
- Assistance in transfer to Senior institution
- Logistical support and coordination for special needs

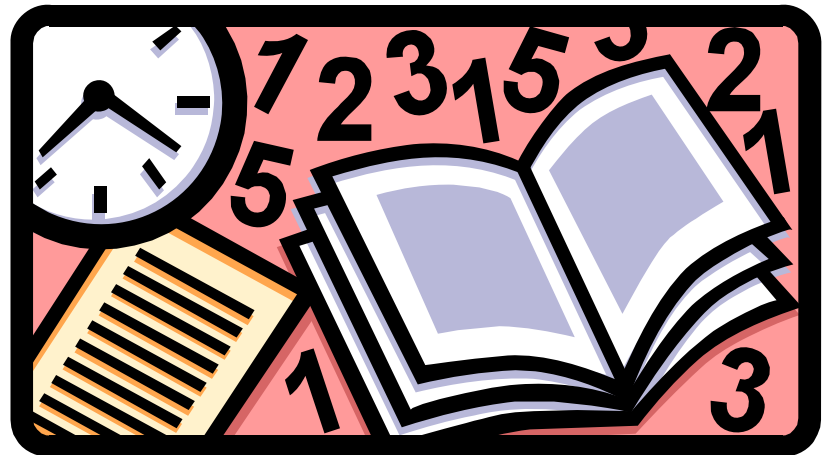
The Director and Focus Staff:

- Facilitate a support group for students with learning disabilities and AD/HD
- Provide individual guidance in time management and
- Help students develop study/test-taking strategies
- Provide academic/career consultation
- Assist with specific class assignments
- Offer start-to-finish assistance with writing assignments



Focus Staff....

- Act as Focus student advocates
- Offer reflective listening
- Serve as AD/HD coaches
- Make referrals to community and college resources
- Promote
 - Self-determination
 - Self-advocacy
 - Self-efficacy
 - Self-directed learning





Join the Focus Team

- Andrew College
 - Complete admissions application
 - Submit transcripts
 - Submit SAT/ACT scores
 - Admission application fee



Focus Program Requirements

- Admission to Andrew College
- Appropriate disability documentation
- Focus application/interview
- Submit
 - Documentation of a specific learning disability and/or AD/HD
 - Recent psychological/psychoeducational evaluation
 - Most recent IEP
 - Transcripts and SAT/ACT scores



*Summary of Documentation Guidelines...

- Disability documentation must be from a licensed professional and be current (within the past three years or after the student's eighteenth birthday).
- The psychological or psychoeducational evaluation must include a specific diagnosis of a learning disability and/or AD/HD.
- The evaluation must include how the disability substantially limits one or more major life activities.
- Recommendations for accommodations must include a rationale for each accommodation.
- *Please refer to the Disability Documentation Guidelines for Andrew College



For additional information about Focus

- Contact Bennie Mattox, Focus Program
Director

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For more information about Andrew College...



Contact the
Admissions Office
1-800-664-9250



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Thus, empowering our students to meet the challenge!!!

