

NUMBER: 6.07

TITLE: Adaptations and Modifications

Successful adaptations are recorded in a Student Learning Plan (StLP) or an Individual Education Plan (IEP) to document how the student is being supported currently and also so other teachers will know what works well for that student.

For students with special needs, adaptations that are used for tests and exams **must** be included in their IEPs in order for them to be considered for adaptations to the provincial exam conditions (adjudication).

Students whose educational programs include adaptations will generally be working toward graduating with a Graduation or a Dogwood Diploma, because their learning outcomes are not being changed from the regular Yukon curriculum.

Modifications

Some students may need learning outcomes that are different from, or in addition to, the ones set out in Yukon curriculum. These **modifications** to the learning outcomes are specifically developed to meet the student's particular needs.

Modifications to learning outcomes will typically take the form of an educational plan that is individualized for the student (IEP).

Adaptations

Adaptations are teaching and assessment strategies especially designed to accommodate a student's needs so he or she can achieve the learning outcomes of the subject or course and demonstrate mastery of concepts. Essentially, adaptations are "best practice" in teaching. A student working on learning outcomes of any grade or course level may be supported through use of adaptations.

Adaptations do not represent unfair advantages to students. If appropriate adaptations are not used, students could be unfairly penalized for having learning differences, creating serious negative impacts to their achievement and self-concept.

Adaptations occur when teachers differentiate instruction, assessment and materials in order to create a flexible learning environment. For example, a student could be working on below grade level learning outcomes in Language Arts and at grade level in all other subjects or courses, some of which require reading materials at the lower reading level (Student Learning Plan).