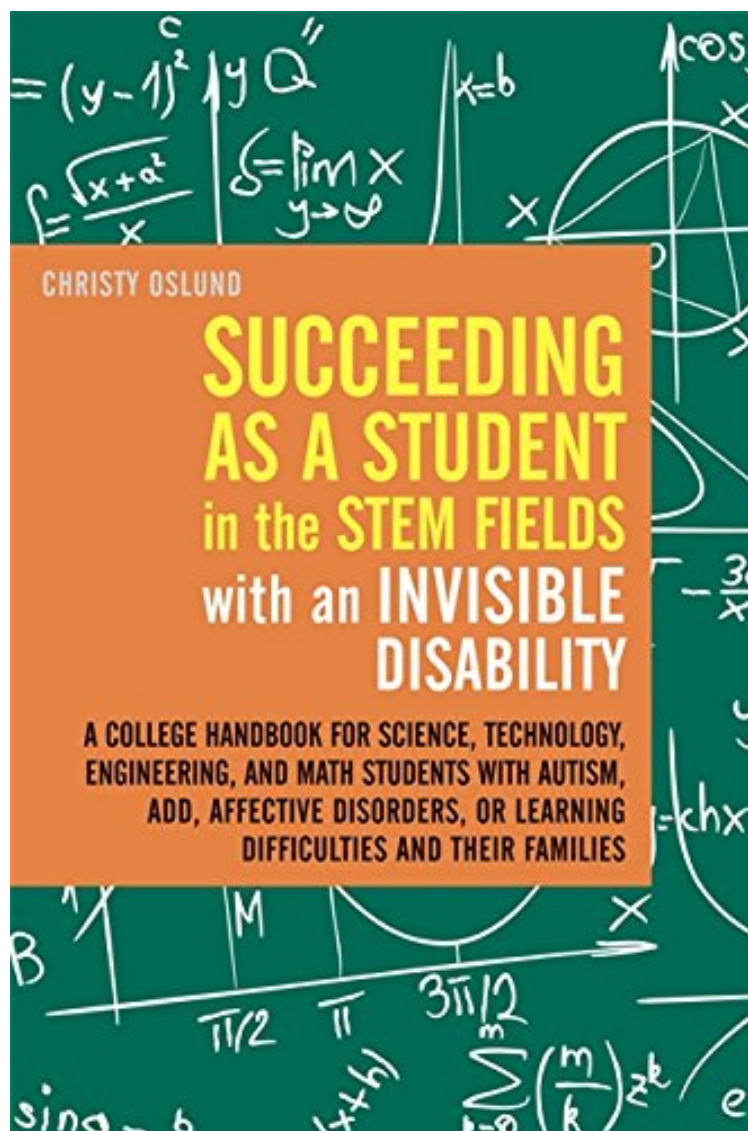


(Download free pdf) Succeeding as a Student in the STEM Fields with an Invisible Disability: A College Handbook for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Students ... or Learning Difficulties and their Families

Succeeding as a Student in the STEM Fields with an Invisible Disability: A College Handbook for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Students ... or Learning Difficulties and their Families

Christy Oslund

audiobook / *ebooks / Download PDF / ePub / DOC



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#1239876 in Books Jessica Kingsley Pub 2013-04-28 2013-04-28 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.00 x .37 x 6.00l, .50 #File Name: 1849059470160 pages | File size: 34.Mb

Christy Oslund : Succeeding as a Student in the STEM Fields with an Invisible Disability: A College Handbook for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Students ... or Learning Difficulties and their Families before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Succeeding as a Student in the STEM Fields with an Invisible Disability: A College Handbook for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Students ... or Learning Difficulties and their Families*:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. OUTSTANDING! Wonderfully written, accessible manual for achieving independence away from home, at college! By N. Alexander

Worried about your Asperger's high school senior making the transition to college? Can he live independently? How can you prepare him to live away from home successfully? What about his integrating into a college environment? How will you know if he is succeeding? How will he get around? What about the professors? What should your student expect to be different from high school? How can you really prepare your student to live successfully as a young independent adult? What does your child need to know in order to make his way in the adult world away from home? This delightful book offers real-world solutions to these and other concerns of parents and guidance counselors of kids with invisible disabilities. I am a retired high school teacher. How I wish I'd had this book then, because some of my parents were distraught about the future of their academically-sound but invisibly-disabled kids! After reading this book, I am reminded that "Disabled doesn't equal debilitated" when one is prepared. And getting prepared is where this writer shines! My favorite parts of Dr. Oslund's writing are her wry humor and anecdotes. Yet this book offers serious, working solutions in interspersed sections entitled "To Parents" and "To Students." Dr. Oslund works with special needs students and parents daily as the Coordinator of Student Disability Services at Michigan Technological University. She knows what the problems are for disabled students and has personally seen how to solve them when possible. Anyone can list problems. But not everyone has experienced working ways to prevent or address those problems. Dr. Christy Oslund has, and here they are! For instance, she points out that the student should be able to make and keep appointments with her doctors, and know how to get transportation to keep the appointments. The student should be able to keep track of his medications and take them. While this skill would be standard, perhaps, for a non-disabled student, it could be the very thing that contributes to an invisibly-disabled student's success, or demise. Dr. Oslund points out specific ways to speak with professors, and useful knowledge about living in one's dormitory. There are resources, she notes, like her office, at many universities, especially charged with guiding invisibly-disabled students, and this office can assist in many ways. But even with help, the college-level student will have responsibilities for his own achievement. These are just a few examples of "things one needs to know" to ready one's disabled student not only for college living as a young adult, but for success in preparing for that experience. I heartily recommend this well-written and useful book for high school guidance counselors who need ideas and resources for invisibly-disabled kids, and especially for parents. If I were a parent with a student who had Asperger's, for instance, who was going off to college, this book would be a godsend! It would tell me what I should do, what my child should be able to do, what we should/should not expect, what legal ramifications exist, what resources are available, and how to get READY, realistically, for the next step in progressing into adulthood. Read the book and give some to parents who need suggestions and knowledge. I have!

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A highly informative book with information for every parent of a young child. By Richard James "What Every Parent Needs to Know to Get a Child Ready for Life" might be a better title for this book. While it's written specifically for parents of invisibly-disabled children, most of the concepts proposed by Dr. Oslund have universal application. It's not just an autistic child going off to a STEM university who needs to know how to do laundry or catch the bus to the pharmacy, so does the young person heading off to vocational school or to the city to find a job. In addition, many of the ideas Dr. Oslund presents should be started early in life, not put off until mid- or late-teen. To the contrary, many of these skills need to be taught starting in infancy. One assumes the early teaching of hand washing after toileting or covering the mouth when coughing, but how old should a child be before learning to treat others with respect, to learn how to make eye contact during conversations, to interact with peers as well as with those of other age groups? It may be the natural inclination of many parents to want to make things easier "than we had it," for our children. Dr. Oslund points out how this practice may be the antithesis of what which we should be doing for our kids, especially if they have an invisible (or visible, for that matter) disability. Dr. Oslund, for example, suggests it may be necessary to create artificial situations to push a child into learning skills which may otherwise be left untaught, particularly for children who will actively avoid those situations as, perhaps, might a child with autism. She suggests seeking out opportunities for introducing a child to others if that's a skill that's lacking or avoided by the child, perhaps enlisting the aid of the other person to 'force' eye contact, or prepare the other person with specific dialogue to use. This book is replete with information of this nature, ideas most parents wouldn't come up with on their own. While this book is written for the parents of the invisibly disabled, I suggest this should be required reading for guidance counselors, regular- and special-ed teachers, special ed. supervisors, school principals, or anyone who deals with the invisibly disabled on a regular basis. This reviewer has spent a lifetime as an educator, most of 30 plus years working with the disabled - I truly wish a book such as Dr. Oslund's had been available "back when".

2 of 2

people found the following review helpful. Helpful advice for All University Bound Students and their Parents
By cc church
Where was this book when I left for university in 1978? Although I am not diagnosed with any type of invisible disability, I was ill-prepared to move 300 miles from the sanctity of my small home town and matriculate at a state university with over 50,000 students. Dr. Oslund succinctly outlines the numerous activities that must be learned in order to master the university setting. Getting up in the morning, attending class, recognizing illness and effectively treating it before it becomes life threatening are just a few of the topics covered in this well considered and easily digestible book. Whether you are a parent or a student, with or without invisible disabilities, this book will highlight a skill set that should be mastered before entering the world of higher education. Thank you Dr. Oslund for much needed guidance and advice.

The STEM fields (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) attract many students with autism, ADD, affective disorders and related invisible disabilities who are highly intelligent and analytical, but who, upon entering higher education, may find that they struggle with independent living and a different way of learning. This is a preparation guide for students and their families that explains everything they need to know about the university experience including classroom behavior, study skills, self-reliance, accessing support services, and when parents should and shouldn't get involved. Offering practical advice and strategies, this is a useful handbook that students can refer to again and again throughout their college years guiding them on their paths to becoming the inventors, scientists, engineers, and computer entrepreneurs of the future.

About the Author
Christy Oslund is Co-ordinator of Student Disability Services in the Dean of the Students' Office at Michigan Technological University. She has a PhD in Rhetoric and Technical Communication from Michigan Technological University and an MA in Philosophy from Michigan State University. She is an active member of the Association on Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD).