

The prevalence of college and university students with mental disabilities has increased substantially over the past decade. Lawsuits by students with mental disorders usually challenge either a negative academic judgment (such as an academic dismissal) or a disciplinary decision (such as suspension or expulsion for misconduct). This article summarizes the requirements of the Americans With Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, reviews student challenges to academic and disciplinary decisions, as well as challenges by students whom institutions have dismissed due to the threat or occurrence of self-inflicted harm, and suggests policy and practice strategies for dealing with students with mental disorders.