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## GED requirement closes doors - employment & growth - to Special Needs Persons

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From: Ming Wang - mother/advocate

re: Special Needs person - Jessica Wang - requesting GED waiver

For Special Needs Disabled persons, are there legal provisions that can be set up to waive GED requirement for employment and life skill programs?

My daughter Jessica, now age 49, aged out of high school. She attended NYU Para-educator and received diploma for this program at a private cost of \$20,000+, but she cannot get a job at nursery school nor day care centers due to GED requirement. She had a job with Chase Bank in-house cafeteria wiping down counters, filling condiment containers, for 9 years until 9/11.

After 9/11, she attended GED program; passed all the tests except for math. New Math is mission impossible for Special Needs person (not just to Jessica alone), because New Math presents a totally impossible language barrier. I myself, a college graduate, hold a graduate school professional degree, but an immigrant - English is not my mother tongue - find New Math mystifying and frustrating.

Without GED, many doors are closed to her. She now works 2 half-day at a doggie day care as a "handler". Hoping to improve job opportunity, we research for positions of "Pet Groomers" again to find doors closed due to requirement of GED.

Jessica has natural talent and inclination for art. She is aged out for high school art classes, which will be most appropriate for her; she cannot take college class for lack of GED. Continued Ed or studio classes are very costly for each 4-6 sessions.

Help ! Help ! Again, for Special Needs Disabled persons, are there legal provisions that can be set up to waive GED requirement? Does the American Disability Act seek to provide special provision in similar situation?

Respectfully,

Ming Wang (Mother/advocate for Jessica Wang)