Adaptations, Accommodations, Modifications

What's the Difference?

ADAPTATIONS are any adjustments or changes made to the environment, curriculum, instruction or assessment practices in order for students to be successful learners. Both accommodations and modifications are types of adaptations.

ACCOMMODATIONS are changes in how a student accesses information and demonstrates learning. They do not substantially change the instructional level, the content or the performance criteria.

MODIFICATIONS are changes in what a student is expected to learn and demonstrate when participating in the general education curriculum. They do not mean that the student must have a separate or parallel curriculum. However, at the high school level, such changes do mean that a student will not graduate with a regular North Carolina diploma.