# **EFFECTIVE ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STRUGGLING STUDENTS** 2/24/21

Presenter: Erin Briley, Mountain Plains, MHTTC Technical Trainer

## **MEMORY DIFFICULTIES**

## 1. When providing instruction:

- a. Provide clear and concise directions.
- b. Repeat information and ensure comprehension
- c. Provide written instructions and visual supports as a reference

### 2. Provide supports:

- a. Provide visual & auditory cues to guide to relevant features. E.g., when lecturing, provide visual cues (overviews, written lecture outlines) to assist attending to key points or teaching how to listen & look for behaviors that signal important information (i.e., raised voice, repetition)
- b. Organize information to make it easier to recall from long-term memory (i.e., word webs to link key information about a concept studied in class).
- c. Link new concepts to information that's already known
- d. Use Mnemonics (e.g., keywords, acronyms acrostics, etc.)
- e. Graphic organizers. Cluster ideas & words that go together to help make related ideas more meaningful & easier to retrieve.
- f. Seat next to another who is able to help with multiple step directions.
- g. Strengthen note-taking skills
- h. Chunk information. Grouped information is easier to retrieve than isolated bits.
- i. If appropriate, don't penalize for spelling errors, just correct instead.
- j. Minimize distractions and background noise

#### 3. Learning Strategies:

- a. Have student repeat information
- b. Encourage use of mnemonics

This document was prepared for the Mountain Plains Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (Mountain Plains MHTTC) under a cooperative agreement from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). All material appearing in this document, except that taken directly from copyrighted sources, is in the public domain and may be reproduced or copied without permission from SAMHSA or the authors. Citation of the source is appreciated. Do not reproduce or distribute this presentation for a fee without specific, written authorization from the Mountain Plains MHTTC. For more information on obtaining copies of this document please email: swinfield@wiche.edu.



At the time of this publication, Tom Coderre served as acting SAMHSA Assistant Secretary. The opinions expressed herein are the views of Erin Briley and do not reflect the official position of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), or SAMHSA. No official support or endorsement of DHHS, SAMHSA, for the opinions described in this document is intended or should be inferred.

The work of the Mountain Plains MHTTC is supported by grant H79SM081792 from the Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.