All services for students with special needs are coordinated through the Learning Assistance Laboratory (LAL) located on the second floor, room 218 of the Campbell Learning Resources Center.

Our staff is ready to work with you to maximize student success and minimize instructor frustration.

For further information and assistance call Dr. Cindy Riedel, extension 4164.

Monroe County Community College
Learning Assistance Laboratory

Monroe County Community College is an equal opportunity institution and adheres to a policy that no qualified person shall be discriminated against because of race, color, national origin or ancestry, age, sex, marital status, or disability in any program or activity for which it is responsible.
Mobility Impairments

Definition

Mobility impairment describes any disability which limits functions of moving in any of the limbs or in fine motor abilities.

Common Characteristics of College Students with Mobility Impairments

- Barriers for these students consist of stairs, curbs, narrow walkways, heavy doors, drinking fountains and telephones out of their reach. Chairs and desks in their passageway are equally difficult to maneuver.
- Students are not always confined to wheelchairs, they often transfer to automobiles and furniture. Some are able to walk with the use of canes, braces, crutches or walkers. (This does not mean that they are "faking" a handicap, but may be just conserving energy.)
- Students use wheelchairs as a result of a variety of handicaps (spinal cord injury, cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, etc.).

Suggestions for Helping Students with Mobility Impairments to Succeed in the College Classroom

1. Sit next to the person who is a wheelchair user.
2. Clear an aisle for the wheelchair user to easily manipulate.
3. Offer assistance but do not insist. If the person needs help, he/she will accept the offer and tell you exactly what would be helpful.
4. Talk directly to the wheelchair user, not a third party.
5. Allow the use of a tape recorder for students who do not have full use of their hands or portions of their upper body.
6. Provide a table, without a lower lip, that allows the student complete access for writing.