

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-SYSTEM

UW System website: www.uwsa.edu
 UW Office of Academic Affairs: (608) 265-3188
 UW System TTY: 1-800-442-4621

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN 4-YEAR COLLEGES

UW-Eau Claire (715) 836-4542
 UW-Green Bay (920) 465-2849
 UW-LaCrosse (608) 785-6900
 UW-Madison (608) 263-2741
 UW-Milwaukee (414) 229-6287
 UW-Oshkosh (920) 424-3100
 UW-Parkside (Racine) (262) 595-2610
 UW-Platteville (608) 342-1818
 UW-River Falls (715) 425-3531
 UW-Stevens Point (715) 346-3365
 UW-Stout (Menomonie) (715) 232-2995
 UW-Superior (715) 394-8288
 UW-Whitewater (262) 472-4711

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN 2-YEAR COLLEGES

UW Colleges: www.uwc.edu

UWC-Baraboo/Sauk County (608) 356-8351
 UWC-Barron County (Rice Lake) (715) 234-8024
 UWC-Fond du Lac (920) 929-3606
 UWC-Fox Valley (Menasha) (920) 832-2620
 UWC-Manitowoc (920) 683-4707
 UWC-Marathon County (Wausau) (715) 261-6243
 UWC-Marinette (715) 735-4302
 UWC-Marshfield/Wood County (715) 389-6530
 UWC-Richland (Richland Center) (608) 647-8422
 UWC-Rock County (Janesville) (608) 758-6523
 UWC-Sheboygan (920) 459-6633
 UWC-Washington County (West Bend) . (262) 335-5201
 UWC-Waukesha (262) 521-5210

WISCONSIN INDEPENDENT COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

Wisconsin Independent Colleges website:
www.WisconsinMentor.org
 Telephone number: (608) 256-7761

Alverno College Milwaukee (800) 933-3401	Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design Milwaukee (888) 749-6423
Beloit College Beloit (800) 356-0751	Milwaukee School of Engineering Milwaukee (800) 332-6763
Cardinal Stritch College Milwaukee (800) 347-8822	Mount Mary College Milwaukee (800) 321-6295
Carroll College Waukesha (800) 227-7655	Mount Senario College Ladysmith (800) 281-6514
Carthage College Kenosha (800) 351-4058	Northland College Ashland (800) 753-1840
Concordia University Mequon (414) 243-5700	Ripon College Ripon (800) 947-4766
Edgewood College Madison (800) 444-4861 ext. 8347	St. Norbert College DePere (800) 236-4878
Lakeland College Sheboygan (800) 569-2166	Silver Lake College Manitowoc (800) 236-4752 ext. 115
Lawrence University Appleton (800) 227-0982	Viterbo University LaCrosse (800) 848-3726
Marian College Fond du Lac (800) 262-7426	Wisconsin Lutheran College Milwaukee (888) 947-5884



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WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGES

Wisconsin Technical College website:
www.witechcolleges.com
 Phone: (608) 266-1770 TTY: (608) 267-2483

Blackhawk	Janesville	(800) 498-1282
Chippewa Valley	Eau Claire	(800) 547-2882
Fox Valley	Appleton	(800) 735-3882
Gateway	Kenosha	(800) 247-7122
Lakeshore	Cleveland	(888) 468-6582
Madison Area	Madison	(800) 322-6282
Mid-State	WI Rapids	(800) 575-6782
Milwaukee Area	Milwaukee	(414) 297-6600
Moraine Park	Fond du Lac	(800) 472-4554
Nicolet Area	Rhineland	(800) 544-3039
North Central	Wausau	(715) 675-3331
Northeast	Green Bay	(800) 422-6982
Southwest	Fennimore	(800) 362-3322
Waukesha	Pewaukee	(877) 463-9282
Western	LaCrosse	(800) 322-9982
Wisconsin Indianhead	Shell Lake	(800) 243-9482

OTHER RESOURCES

- Department of Public Instruction
www.dpi.state.wi.us
- Department of Workforce Development
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
www.dwd.state.wi.us/dvr/
- Wisconsin Youth Apprenticeship Program
www.uwhelp.wisconsin.edu/admin/adm03a.htm
- Heath Resource Center
www.heath-resource-center.org
- College is Possible
www.collegeispossible.org
- Preparing Your Child for College
www.ed.gov/pubs/Prepare/index.html
- Getting Ready for College Early
www.ed.gov/pubs/GettingReadyCollegeEarly/#step1
- Office of Student Financial Assistance Programs (OSFAP)
www.ed.gov/offices/OSFAP

OPENING DOORS TO

Post-
Secondary
Education
& Training

FOR
STUDENTS
WITH
DISABILITIES

A challenge
that's worth
the effort!

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

THE CHALLENGE...

All Wisconsin K-12 and post-secondary education institutions

are committed to providing reasonable opportunity and equal challenges to all students, including students with disabilities.

What are your rights?

The term “disability” means different things in public schools and postsecondary institutions.

When serving students with disabilities, public schools must comply with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), which requires them to identify, document, and provide services based on an Individualized Education Program (IEP). The IEP serves as a monitoring and communication tool for parents, students, and school personnel and provides connections for community services (for example, employment opportunities or adult living). IDEA entitlements end when the student reaches age 21 or when the requirements for high school graduation are met and the student receives a regular high school diploma.

When serving students with disabilities, postsecondary institutions must comply with

Section 504/Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which stipulates they

- cannot discriminate in college recruitment, admission, or after admission solely based on a student’s disability;
- are required to make individualized, reasonable accommodations at no charge;
- must make modifications “as necessary” to ensure academic requirements are not discriminatory;
- inform students of available services, academic adjustments, and the name of the coordinator of support services; and
- must provide written information on how to access services or request accommodations.

It is important to start planning EARLY for postsecondary education!

What are your responsibilities?

Students within High School need to

- participate in transition planning by attending meetings, beginning at age 14 or younger, if appropriate,
- talk to their IEP team to discuss interests and preferences, and address postsecondary education planning, and
- learn self advocacy skills.

Upon turning 18, students with disabilities are legally adults in charge of their own future. Although laws (504/ADA) also protect them, they have responsibilities as they enter postsecondary education.

Students should

- understand their disability and provide current documentation verifying the disability,
- advocate on their own behalf,
- contact support/special services personnel at the college, technical college, or university,
- notify instructors regarding needed accommodations, and
- arrange for those support services not available in the postsecondary education setting.

What are individual accommodations?

It is important to understand the distinction between accommodations (ensuring access to programs and services) and modifications (making *changes* to programs and services). Postsecondary educational institutions must provide needed accommodations including but not limited to:

- special needs counseling
- assistive technology
- testing accommodations
- taped textbooks
- note-takers, readers, and interpreters
- learning/study skills support together.

See the Department of Public Instruction’s website for a list of accommodations (provided but not limited to) by institution (www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/dlsea/een/transition.html).

Are special education services available in postsecondary institutions?

Simply put-no! Postsecondary institutions may provide academic adjustments if they do not change course outcomes or program requirements or place an undue burden on the institution.

Remember... Accommodations are intended to ensure program access that allows students with disabilities to compete equally with their nondisabled peers. Not all accommodations are appropriate for every student.

However... Students with disabilities can succeed in the postsecondary environment by demonstrating the following characteristics of a successful student:

- Be *motivated and goal-oriented*
- Be *academically prepared*
- Demonstrate *self-advocacy skills*

- Demonstrate *organizational skills*
- Demonstrate *time-management skills*

Talk to your instructors and negotiate needed accommodations from the first day of class (or earlier, if possible). Don’t wait until the end of the semester!

What postsecondary opportunities exist in Wisconsin?

University of Wisconsin System — Wisconsin has 13 four-year institutions offering undergraduate and/or graduate programs as well as 13 two-year institutions.

Independent Institutions — Wisconsin has 21 private colleges and universities.

Technical College System — Wisconsin has 16 technical colleges offering one- and two-year associate degrees in fields ranging from accounting to web development. Some technical college credits transfer to four-year colleges or universities.

Other Postsecondary Options — See the State of Wisconsin Educational Approval Board website for a complete listing (eab.state.wi.us/static/) of other postsecondary options.

Admission requirements vary among postsecondary institutions. Students should discuss the kinds of classes, grades, and entrance requirements needed with a school counselor and the IEP team.

Where to start?

- Ask a school counselor for the postsecondary handbook for students with disabilities, “Opening the Second Door,” for additional information and suggestions.
- Refer to the list of postsecondary institutions on the back.
- Check the cited websites for additional information.