Center for Students with Disabilities Services

“Exploring the possibilities of your future”
Eligibility for CSD Services

- Student must be admitted to UW-Whitewater
- We are happy to meet with prospective students but will not approve accommodations at an initial meeting
- Students must complete an Application for Accommodation Services Form
- Submit disability documentation along with application (Documentation guidelines available on our website!)
- Student’s application and documentation is reviewed to determine eligibility for services
- If eligible, students are assigned to a Disability Services Coordinator to determine appropriate accommodations and set up services
Services for Students with Disabilities in College

• Post Secondary Institutions follow ADA and Section 504...not IDEA
• IEP or 504 Plan is helpful but usually not sufficient documentation
• You are responsible to provide your own documentation.
  – Documentation must be current
  – Completed by a qualified professional
  – Adult assessment tools (Not Children’s)
Services continued....

- All services are determined on an individual basis
- Students must request and set up accommodations services each semester
- Students must talk to faculty/instructors each semester (CSD will *not* inform instructors of your accommodation needs for you)
### Types of Services: ADA Mandated vs. Non-Mandated Services

#### Mandated Services

- **Common Accommodations**
  - Alternative Testing
  - Alternative Media
  - Note Taking
  - Sign Language Interpreting/Captioning
  - Braille
  - Classroom accommodations
  - Adaptive Computer Lab
  - In-class Aide
  - Housing Modifications

#### Non-Mandated

- **Fee-based Service Programs**
  - Summer Transition Program
  - Project ASSIST (Tutoring)
  - Adaptive Transportation
  - Out-of-Class Aides
  - Employment Connections
Disabilities Services Coordinator

– Meet with each semester to set up services
– Review what services you will need for each class
– Assist with problem solving and identifying resources
– Will *not* “check in” on your progress, you must make appointments and initiate meetings
Summer Transition Program

• The Center for Students with Disabilities offers a four-week program for incoming freshmen with disabilities. The intent of the program is to help students make a smooth transition from high school to university life at UW-Whitewater. Students are enrolled in two, three-credit courses:
  • Academic Survival Skills
    – This course emphasizes such things as note-taking skills, test-taking strategies, verbal and written language skills and the process of writing a university-level research paper.
  • Transition to College with a Disability
    – This course is designed to help college freshmen with disabilities develop communication skills, critical thinking and learning strategies, and skills through engagement in projects and presentations and the use of assistive technologies.
• Additionally, the Summer Transition Program provides one-to-one support from professional staff and facilitates connections with campus and community resources.
• The UW-Whitewater Summer Transition Program clearly contributes to improved academic performance and retention of students with disabilities. The national graduation rate for students with disabilities is 19 percent, according to the 2010 Harris Poll. Students that successfully complete the STP graduate at a rate of 48 percent at five years, more than double the national rate. In fact, 96 percent of STP students persist from the first to second semester during their freshman
Project ASSIST

- Project ASSIST is a supplementary, fee-based program that provides comprehensive and individualized support services to students with disabilities. Although its primary focus is academic support, the program also addresses strengthening students’ time management, organization and problem-solving skills.

- **Tutoring**
  - Project ASSIST tutors are undergraduate and graduate students who are trained in study skills and learning strategies, assessment of learning styles and techniques for working with individuals with disabilities.
  - Tutoring may include:
    - Individualized academic assistance with coursework
    - Organization and time management
    - Suggestions for learning and communication strategies
    - Writing and math assistance
    - Referral to other campus services

- **Drop-in tutoring support** is available during daytime and evening hours.

- **Computer Lab**
  - Assistive technology software such as Kurzweil 3000, TextHelp and Inspiration are available. Adaptive workstations are also available. Students can work on homework in the lab and have access to tutors and staff. The computer lab has both daytime and evening hours.
Warhawk Wheels

• Curb to curb pickup/drop off services for students
  – Academic - rides are class related activities
  – Non-academic - rides within the city of Whitewater

• Only University in state that has this service

• Three vans in operation

• 50 riders 2014-2015 academic year
Out of Class Aides

- An Out of Class Aide is an individual hired by the Center for Students with Disabilities to help students complete class-related projects and activities that need to be done outside of the classroom.
- UW-Whitewater students
- Paired with students who need assistance outside of the classroom and request the accommodation through his/her Key Contact
- Fee-Based. There is a cost associated with this service. The student is billed based on the number of hours they use each semester.
- Hired, trained, paid, and supervised through the Center for Students with Disabilities
- An Out of Class Aide could:
  - help a student with a physical limitation put together a visual aid for a presentation.
  - assist with typing a paper if a student is unable to use the Dragon Naturally Speaking© technology.
  - could assist a student with writing out answers to homework assignments as the student dictates.
Employment Connections

• A new pilot program at UW-Whitewater expanding on our Work Experience Program for students. Work experience program assisted students with little to no work experience find campus employment.

• Employment Connections program will provide the following:

  • For Students:
    – Resume development
    – How to write a cover letter/thank you letters
    – How to find a job
    – Rights under the ADA
    – How/when to disclose
    – Job Development

  • For Employers:
    – Connections to an untapped talent pool of students with disabilities, including Veterans with disabilities
    – Candidates for internships and employment
    – Workforce diversity
    – Consultation and ongoing support
Questions....