



Center for Accessible Resources

## **Working with Students with Mobility and Physical Impairments Center for Accessible Resources (CAR)**

Access can be one of the major concerns for students with mobility and physical impairments. Some barriers may include classroom arrangements, furniture, and narrow entryways.

While CAR understands that some of these barriers are out of the instructor's control, there are a number of items that can be taken into consideration to ensure access for these students. Outlined below are strategies instructors can use when working with students with mobility or physical impairments.

### **General classroom strategies**

- If possible, arrange the classroom you are teaching in such a way that there is room for a student to move around easily.
- Desks may need to be used that do not have tables attached to the chairs.
- Keep in mind table height for classes that may have a lab component.
- Ensure that field trip arrangements allow for accessibility to all students.
- If alternate furniture is placed in a student's classroom, ensure that you are not moving this furniture to another location.
- If a student addresses you with concerns about their alternate furniture, please direct them to CAR.

### **One-on-one interactions**

- Arrange your office in a way that is accessible for a student with mobility difficulties, or who may be utilizing a wheelchair.
- Discuss accommodations and ways to best assist the student in a private setting.
- When talking to a student in a wheelchair, attempt to converse at eye level rather than standing and looking down.

Every student with a mobility or physical impairment is going to have different needs. It is important to only provide the accommodations to a student that are listed in their

Letter of Accommodation. If you have further questions about how to work with students with mobility and physical impairments, please contact CAR.

To request this information in an alternate format please contact the Center for Accessible Resources at (541) 463-5150 or [accessibleresources@lanecc.edu](mailto:accessibleresources@lanecc.edu).

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