

ACCESSIBILITY

The University of Western Ontario

Accessibility Resources for Western

Resources specified below are intended to supplement those listed in the *Accessible Service* and *Accessibility in Teaching* documents.

Accessible Transportation

Accessible campus and city transportation may be arranged by contacting:

- Aboutown Taxi (519-432-2222) for accessible cabs that can accommodate 1 or 2 passengers and wheelchairs
- Aboutown Transportation Limited (519-663-2222) for larger accessible vehicles that can accommodate more than 2 passengers and wheelchairs
- Voyageur Transportation Service (519-455-4579) for accessible vans and buses
- Paratransit (519 455-4580) for London Transit Commission's accessible transportation

Accessible campus transportation for students is available through Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD): 519-661-2147, ssd@sd.uwo.ca

Adaptive Equipment

The University typically would not be responsible for providing adaptive equipment (e.g., wheelchairs, scooters, walkers, crutches, canes) for the public's use as most people purchase or rent this equipment in consultation with their health care providers. Nevertheless, there may be circumstances in which the University would choose to make equipment available to the public (e.g., convocation).

Adaptive equipment may be rented from:

- Shoppers Home Health (Cherryhill Village Mall): 519-434-3326
- Dura Med Home Care Mobility Products (519-686-3888)

SSD has one wheelchair which other departments may borrow.

Attendant Care

Most individuals who require attendant care or assistance from a nurse will have ongoing arrangements for this care. Nevertheless, the University may receive requests for attendant care and other forms of assistance (e.g., from individuals who are travelling from another city to attend a Western event). Western also may receive requests for relatively minor levels of assistance (e.g., help with carrying food trays or setting up laptops).

When responding to requests for assistance, it would be appropriate to indicate that if personal attendant care or nursing support is required, the inquirer should contact the Community Care Access Centre (519-473-2222 or 1-800-811-5146) which will assist the individual with arranging the required support. If relatively minor assistance is required, the event organizers should determine whether or not they can provide it, and then inform the inquirer.

Braille

Western may receive requests for Braille versions of certain documents. The company named below will provide fee-for-service work, and has experience working with at least one other Ontario university.

T-Base Communications jjullion@tbase.com
Atten: Jeff Jullion
T-Base Communications
19 Main Street
Ottawa, Ontario, K1S 1A9

Other Braille producers may be found by going to (scroll down to the section for Canadian producers): <http://www.duxburysystems.com/search.asp?Search=braillefor>

SSD creates Braille versions of exams and other short documents for students' courses through its Adaptive Computing Technology Centre. SSD also arranges for students to obtain Braille textbooks, course packs, and other required readings from W. Ross Macdonald, a provincially funded organization whose mandate includes the provision of accessible text for students who are blind or have low vision.

FM System Head Sets

Head sets for FM systems that are in certain classrooms are available from SSD, and may be used by students and other members of the public.

Sign Language Interpreters

Sign language interpreters for university events may be hired through the Canadian Hearing Society (CHS): 519-667-3325; TTY: 519-667-3323. CHS recommends arranging interpreters two to three weeks in advance of the event, although arrangements also may be possible with shorter notice.

Two interpreters may be required for events in which interpretation must occur in a continuous manner for an extended period of time (e.g., presentations). The interpreters spell each other off approximately every 20 minutes. CHS will be able to determine the number of interpreters that will be required for particular events.

In many cases, the individual who requires a sign language interpreter will suggest interpreters with whom he or she feels comfortable working.

SSD arranges sign language interpreters for students' classes and meetings with their instructors.