

# MCBURNNEY DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER



## WHO ARE WE?

The McBurney Disability Resource Center is an office on UW-Madison's campus that provides academic accommodations and advocacy for students with disabilities to ensure equal access.

## WHAT DO WE DO?

The McBurney Ctr approves academic accommodations. Students at UW-Madison with a disability complete our eligibility process and then work closely with an Access Consultant to create an individualized accommodation plan.

## WHAT IS A DISABILITY?

A disability is defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act as a mental or physical impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities. We serve UW-Madison students with physical, learning, sensory, psychological and other disabilities substantially affecting a major life activity (e.g., walking, communicating, learning, seeing, breathing, etc.). Many students have non-apparent disabilities such as depression, anxiety, learning disabilities, AD/HD, autism, and health conditions such as Crohn's disease or fibromyalgia.

## HOW DO I APPLY?

Application for accommodations includes four steps:

1. Complete the McBurney Connect Student Application on our website, [mcburney.wisc.edu](http://mcburney.wisc.edu)
2. Gather and submit appropriate documentation of your disability
3. Check your email (@wisc.edu email if activated) for next steps while you are gathering documentation of your disability
4. Participate in an initial meeting with your Access Consultant

## I DO NOT HAVE A DIAGNOSIS. CAN YOU HELP?

We do not offer testing or diagnosis at the McBurney Ctr, but we can send you in the right direction. Contact our office for help finding assessment sites on campus and in the Madison area.

## DOES DISABILITY STATUS APPEAR ON MY TRANSCRIPT?

Definitely not. Affiliation with the McBurney Center is confidential other than those who have a legitimate educational need to know.

## **I HAVE A DISABILITY, BUT I'M NOT SURE I'LL NEED ACCOMMODATIONS IN COLLEGE. SHOULD I STILL APPLY?**

Pursuing services is completely up to you. However, once you are approved for services, you are able to decide when and how you will use the accommodations. UW-Madison is a very different learning environment than you may have experienced before, so you might find that your disability-related needs are different as well. Feel free to schedule a meeting at the McBurney Ctr to gather more information!

## **CAN I JUST FIGURE OUT IF I NEED IT OR NOT DURING THE SEMESTER?**

There is no “application deadline” for accommodations; you can apply anytime. However, it is important to note that our services are not retroactive, meaning that if you do poorly in a class or on an exam due to disability, we cannot go back to change the outcome. This is another reason that we encourage students to set up accommodations as early as possible.



## **I BROKE MY WRIST, BUT IT'S NOT A LASTING DISABILITY. CAN MCBURNEY HELP?**

The McBurney Center offers advocacy and assistance to students with temporary impairments like a broken bone, recovery from surgery, and other medical conditions, as needed. Please reach out to our office for more information on temporary disability services.

## **DOES MCBURNEY OFFER SCHOLARSHIPS?**

Yes, we do. McBurney Center General Scholarships are available to UW-Madison undergraduate, graduate and professional students who are registered with the McBurney Ctr. Check out our website and the UW Madison scholarship page ([scholarships.wisc.edu](http://scholarships.wisc.edu)) for more information.



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## **I HAVE MORE QUESTIONS.**

We have answers! Feel free to contact us at any time for more information or to connect with the McBurney Center.