

# Americans with Disabilities Act

Wallace State Community College is committed to making its academic programs and services accessible to qualified students who have disabilities. It is a goal of Wallace State to provide students who have disabilities equal opportunities to develop and demonstrate their academic skills, while maintaining the academic integrity of the College programs. Consistent with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the ADA Amendment Act of 2008, it is the policy of Wallace State Community College that no qualified person with a disability shall be subjected to discrimination because of that disability under any program or activity conducted or sponsored by the College.

**The Admissions Office handles all applications for admission.** Admission standards are described in the College catalog and must be met by all students, regardless of disability. Students with disabilities are encouraged to contact the Director of Special Populations before Lions' Pride (orientation) or classes begin. Students who may need accommodations during Lions' Pride need to make contact before their scheduled date.

**Colleges are not required to alter essential academic requirements.** Requirements, which can be demonstrated as essential to a course or program of study or to any directly related licensing requirement, are not regarded as discriminatory.

**When to self-identify as a student with a disability is a decision for the student.** However, prospective students are encouraged to contact the Director of Special Populations for information regarding services and facilities and to discuss questions pertinent to admission. If accommodations are needed for placement testing, all documentation must be on file in the ADA Office.

**The Director of Special Populations** serves as the central contact point for students with disabilities. The goal of the ADA office is to provide a physically and educationally accessible College environment that ensures an individual is viewed on the basis of ability, not disability. The Director of Special Populations works individually with students to determine appropriate and reasonable academic accommodations, and to have students' academic performance evaluated without the limiting effects of a disability.