Mobility Impairments

Possible Student Characteristics:

- Trouble getting to class on time.
- Difficulty handling/moving objects, such as pencils, book pages, etc.
- Difficulty walking for long periods of time.
- Use of wheelchair, walker, scooter, or crutches.
- Low stamina.
- Tendency to have more incidences of respiratory illnesses.
- Use of service animals.
- Use of personal caretakers/attendants.

Teaching Tips:

- Make sure your classroom and the path to it is accessible. If not, work with Accessibility Services to ensure accessibility.
- Think in advance about field trips. Make the calls necessary to ensure that the site is accessible. Make sure transportation is accessible as well. Assess the purpose of the trip and ask yourself: How can I maximize this experience for all students?
- Make sure all equipment in the classroom is within the student’s reach.
- Consider allowing students to do verbal reports, instead of written ones.
- Sit down if you plan on speaking with a student in a wheelchair for more than a couple of minutes.
- If the student is often late to class, discuss the situation with him and work with him and the student’s accessibility counselor to find a solution.
- Allow students to make class presentations from their seats instead of coming to the front of the room.
- Make sure your classroom has space for a personal caretaker/attendant if one is used.

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