



Hudson Valley Community College Environmental Health and Safety Evacuation Guidelines for Mobility-Impaired Persons

For evacuation purposes, a mobility-impaired individual is anyone with a permanent or temporary disability, who for whatever medical reason, is unable to evacuate a building via the stairwell.

The Public Safety Office has a schedule of all disabled students registered with the Disability Resource Center. Every effort is made to schedule students who are mobility-impaired in classes on the first floor of all buildings for ease in emergency evacuation. However, these students are not always in regularly scheduled classes.

You may wish to assist in the evacuation of a mobility-impaired person. Here's how you can help:

- Mobility-impaired students and their faculty should identify other students who will act as helpers during an emergency and assist in the evacuation.
- Keep in mind that the safest and easiest route may be to move into an adjoining building. Each building is designed with fire barrier structural components so that a fire in one building will not involve other attached buildings.
- Assist the individual in reaching: an exit from the building, another connected building, or a safe area away from all danger in the building being evacuated
- Use an "evac chair" if available. The Disability Resource Center has located these in strategic areas where they may be needed. Public Safety also has these chairs in their vehicles. An evac chair allows an individual to be strapped in and transported down stairways.
- If a mobility-impaired individual cannot evacuate safely or go to an area of the building furthest from the fire or danger area, an enclosed area, such as office or enclosed stairwell with a phone, is best.
- Use an emergency phone or dial 911 from any campus phone and report your exact location and nature of the emergency.
- Emergency phones are strategically located throughout buildings, generally in areas such as enclosed stairwells where it is safe to wait for assistance if needed