

[Snowstorms & Significant Weather Events: Assistance for Students with Permanent or Temporary Disabilities](#)

Western New York has been known to experience winters with sustained cold temperatures as well as snow and ice -- even into April! It is highly possible that sidewalks and roads will become compromised quickly during a storm with high levels of snowfall, high winds, and/or drifting snow. As a result, Niagara University has developed a list of resources that students with permanent or temporary disabilities can use to request assistance if needed during a significant weather event/snowstorm.

Making Your Needs Known: Students with disabilities should contact Disability Services each year to discuss potential needs during the winter months. Resident students should also make their needs known to their Resident Assistants (RAs). With the each student's permission, Disability Services will notify Facility Services each student's needs and alert them as to what routes may need to be cleared to aid in prioritizing the clearing of sidewalks and roads throughout the winter.

Making Ongoing Requests for Assistance: During a storm, individuals with permanent or temporary disabilities can request assistance if conditions of sidewalks and roads become an impediment to accessing essential services and classes on campus such as:

1. **Food Service:** Students should contact their Resident Assistants (RAs) to arrange for someone to get a take-out meal for them from the cafeteria. The RA will need a note from the student explaining why a take-out meal is needed by the student to present to the cafeteria staff. The student will also need to give his/her ID card to the RA in order for the student's meal to be charged to his/her meal plan.
2. **Missing Classes / Class Notes:** Students should contact their professors to explain why they are missing class. Students should ask their professors how to turn in assignments that are due, how to make up scheduled exams, what material will be covered or what additional assignments will be given out. Contact Disability Services for assistance in obtaining copies of class notes if needed.
3. **Snow Removal Requests:** During a storm, both Facility Services and Campus Safety receive numerous requests for snow removal. In order to prioritize all requests and address them in a timely manner, students with permanent or temporary disabilities should use the following procedure to make snow removal requests for routes they need to use to access essential services and get to class:
 - Contact either Facility Services or Campus Safety as follows: Weekdays: Facility Services at 716-286-8430 Evenings/Weekends: Campus Safety at 716-286-8111
 - Identify yourself as a student with a permanent or temporary disability.
 - Describe the route(s) that need(s) to be cleared and when you need to use them (please be as specific as possible). Current weather conditions may warrant exploring other alternatives in an effort to assist you in a timely manner.