THE HBCU DISABILITY CONSORTIUM

What is the HBCU Disability Consortium?
It is a group of colleagues working in disability services at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), in partnership with the Taishoff Center for Inclusive Higher Education at Syracuse University, the University of the District of Columbia, Howard University, and the Association on Higher Education And Disability (AHEAD). With funding from the U.S. Department of Education, we are identifying ways to provide culturally responsive transition, disability services, and classroom instruction to Black and African American students with disabilities.

Is this Only for HBCUs?
The Consortium started as an organization for HBCU disability services professionals, but now welcomes anyone interested in race and disability in higher education.

Consortium resources and research will also be of interest to predominantly white institutions that want to improve their campus climate and responsiveness to disability and diversity issues of students, faculty, and staff.

The Consortium leverages the power of HBCUs for all Black college students and all college students with disabilities.

Blackdisabledandproud.org
February, 2015
HBCUs are Centers of Expertise

An estimated 323,000 U.S. undergraduates are Black or African American students with disabilities*, although exact figures for students, faculty, and staff are unknown and are likely to be much higher. HBCUs have a long history of developing expertise to educate and serve Black and African American college students. Research at HBCUs disability services offices can help predominantly white institutions be more effective and culturally competent with Black disabled students. Likewise, sharing ideas, practices, and community resources strengthen HBCU disability services. Diversity is important, but let’s do it right.

* Based on statistics by the National Center for Education Statistics and AHEAD.

What We Can Offer

Check out our project websites for:

- Research about race and disability in special education transition and higher education, including research by the HBCU Disability Consortium
- History of African Americans with disabilities in the United States
- Links to all disability services offices at HBCUs
- Resources for prospective college students, disability services providers, faculty, and higher education administrators

“The direct involvement of HBCUs is essential if America is to achieve greater success in empowering African Americans with disabilities.”

- Claiborne D. Haughton, Jr.
  Black Collegian, April, 1993

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