



Wisconsin Union

Experiences for a lifetime

Memorial Union Reinvestment Accessibility Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Will the Memorial Union be Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant after the Memorial Union Reinvestment?

A: Yes. The Wisconsin Union has invested time and financial resources to assure guests will be able to enjoy all of the Memorial Union.

Q: Were there accessibility challenges prior to the Memorial Union Reinvestment?

A: Additions and transformations at the Memorial Union had created 27 different levels with varying access challenges. These changes had also resulted in some spaces becoming completely inaccessible to guests in wheelchairs.

Q: Why was the Memorial Union not built to be ADA compliant originally?

A: The central and east wings of the Memorial Union opened in 1928, and the theater wing opened in 1939. All of these wings were built prior to the passing of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Creating enjoyable experiences for all guests is a priority for the Wisconsin Union and was a focus throughout renovations.

Q: What changes were made to the Memorial Union to make it accessible to all guests?

A: Memorial Union Reinvestment changes that increased accessibility included:

- Adding a ramp on the second floor between central and east wings
- Adding an elevator to the west wing
- Reconstructing walkway between central and theater wings
- Adding an entrance on Langdon Street with direct access to theater and Terrace
- Adding wheelchair-accessible bathrooms near theater
- Modifying all door widths to accommodate wheelchairs
- Adding ramps to the Terrace
- Raising the grade of the Terrace's east end to meet the first floor of the building
- Raising the grade of the Terrace's west end to be level with Park Street