

Vishwakarma University Pune Policy on Facilities for Differently abled

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Policy Title	Policy on Facilities for Differently abled				
Policy Number	VU/EOC/Policies/2023/01				
Functional Field	Student Facilities				
Related Policies (Write N/A if not applicable)	Campus Management Policy Student Welfare Policy				
Custodian	Director, Equal Opportunity Cell (EOC)				
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Revision History					
Number	Date	Ву	Main Changes		
Revision # 1	09/11/2023	Director IQAC	Change in Custodian (Old Policy No. VU/Policies/2019/01) and Improved Processes and Procedures		
Revision # 2					

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1. PURPOSE

Vishwakarma University, Pune is committed to creating an inclusive and supportive environment for differently abled students. The policy ensures that all students, regardless of their physical, sensory, cognitive, or learning disabilities, have equal access to educational opportunities, facilities, and services provided by the university. The aim is to foster an educational environment where all students can participate fully in academic, social, and extracurricular activities without discrimination or undue hardship.

2. SCOPE OF THE POLICY

This policy applies to all differently abled students enrolled in any academic program at Vishwakarma University, Pune. It encompasses all aspects of the university experience, including but not limited to:

- 1. Physical accessibility of university buildings and facilities
- 2. Provision of assistive technologies and resources
- 3. Academic accommodations and modifications
- 4. Support services and counseling



5. Awareness and training for faculty, staff, and students

The policy also extends to all members of the university community, including faculty, administrative staff, and service providers, ensuring their active participation in creating an inclusive environment for differently abled students.

3. APPLICATION

The policy is applicable to:

- 1. Differently abled students currently enrolled in any academic program at Vishwakarma University, Pune.
- 2. Prospective students seeking admission to the university.
- 3. Faculty members, administrative staff, and service providers who interact with differently abled students or are involved in the planning, development, and delivery of educational programs and services.
- 4. University facilities, including classrooms, laboratories, libraries, hostels, sports complexes, and all other physical infrastructure.

4. POLICY STATEMENT

Vishwakarma University, Pune is committed to promoting equality, diversity, and inclusion within its educational environment. The university recognizes that differently abled students may face unique challenges and is dedicated to providing the necessary support and accommodations to ensure that these students can achieve their full academic and personal potential.

4.1 Non-Discrimination

The university prohibits any form of discrimination based on disability. All differently abled students are entitled to equal access to all programs, services, and activities offered by the university, including admissions, academic courses, examinations, and extracurricular activities.

4.2 Physical Accessibility

The university will ensure that all buildings and facilities are physically accessible to differently abled students. This includes the provision of ramps, elevators, accessible restrooms, signage, and other necessary modifications to ensure that all areas of the campus are accessible to students with mobility impairments.



4.3 Academic Accommodations

The university will provide reasonable academic accommodations to differently abled students to ensure they have equal opportunities to succeed. Accommodations may include, but are not limited to:

- 1. Extended time for examinations and assignments
- 2. Provision of lecture notes and reading materials in accessible formats
- 3. Permission to use assistive technologies in the classroom
- 4. Modifications to course delivery methods

4.4 Assistive Technologies and Resources

The university will provide access to assistive technologies and resources that support the learning and participation of differently abled students. This may include screen readers, speechto-text software, specialized computer equipment, and other assistive devices.

4.5 Support Services

The university will offer a range of support services to differently abled students, including academic counseling, psychological counseling, and peer support programs. These services will be designed to address the specific needs of differently abled students and to promote their overall well-being.

4.6 Awareness and Training

The university will conduct regular awareness and training programs for faculty, staff, and students to promote understanding and sensitivity towards the needs of differently abled students. These programs will aim to create a supportive and inclusive environment for all members of the university community.

4.7 Confidentiality

The university will maintain the confidentiality of all information related to a student's disability. Disclosure of a student's disability will be made only with the student's consent and on a need-to-know basis.



5. PROCEDURE AND PROCESSES

5.1 Registration of Differently Abled Students

Differently abled students seeking accommodations and support services must register with the university's Equal Opportunity Cell (EOC). During registration, students are required to provide documentation of their disability from a licensed medical or psychological professional. This documentation will help the EOC determine appropriate accommodations and support services.

5.2 Development of Individualized Support Plans

Once registered, the EOC will work with the differently abled students to develop different facilities and services to improve quality of campus life of the differently abled students. It will include the specific and general facilities and support services required by the student to fully participate in academic and campus life. It will be reviewed and updated annually or as needed to reflect any changes in the students' needs.

5.3 Implementation of Accommodations

The EOC will coordinate with relevant academic departments, faculty members, and administrative units to implement, maintain and improve the said facilities and services. This may also involve providing accessible learning materials, arranging for assistive technologies, or modifying examination procedures. Faculty members and staff are required to comply with facilities and services provided in the policy and to provide the necessary support to the differently abled student.

5.4 Monitoring and Evaluation

The EOC will regularly monitor the implementation of accommodations and support services to ensure their effectiveness. Students are encouraged to provide feedback on the accommodations they receive and to report any issues or challenges they encounter. The EOC will work with the student to address any concerns and to make necessary adjustments to the ISP.

5.5 Grievance Redressal

Differently abled students who believe that their rights under this policy have been violated or that they have been denied reasonable accommodations may file a grievance with the university's Grievance Redressal Committee (GRC). The GRC will investigate the grievance and take appropriate action to resolve the issue. The university is committed to ensuring that all grievances are handled promptly, fairly, and in a confidential manner.

5.6 Continuous Improvement

The university will periodically review this policy and the procedures outlined herein to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of differently abled students. The university will seek input from differently abled students, faculty, staff, and external experts to identify areas for improvement and to make necessary changes to the policy and procedures.

6. RESPONSIBILITIES

6.1 University Administration

The university administration is responsible for providing the resources and support necessary to implement this policy. This includes funding for physical accessibility improvements, assistive technologies, and support services, as well as ensuring that all university policies and procedures are aligned with the principles of inclusivity and non-discrimination.

6.2 Office for Equal Opportunity Cell (EOC)

The EOC is the primary point of contact for differently abled students and is responsible for coordinating the provision of student facilities and support services. The EOC will maintain records of all registered differently abled students, develop different facilities and support services, and monitor them. The EOC is also responsible for conducting awareness and training programs for the university community.

6.3 Faculty Members

Faculty members play a critical role in the implementation of this policy. They are responsible for providing the academic accommodations specified in the ISP and for creating an inclusive classroom environment. Faculty members are encouraged to work closely with the EOC to address any challenges in accommodating differently abled students and to seek guidance on best practices for inclusive teaching.

6.4 Administrative Staff

Administrative staff are responsible for ensuring that all university facilities and services are accessible to differently abled students. This includes making necessary modifications to physical infrastructure, providing accessible transportation, and ensuring that all information and communication materials are available in accessible formats.



6.5 Differently Abled Students

Differently abled students are responsible for registering with the EOC and providing the necessary documentation of their disability. Students are hereby encouraged for actively participating in the development of facilities and support services aligned with their needs to the EOC and faculty members. Differently abled students are encouraged to provide feedback on the facilities and support services they receive and to report any issues or challenges they encounter.

6.6 University Community

All members of the university community, including students, faculty, staff, and service providers, have a responsibility to contribute to an inclusive and supportive environment for differently abled students. This includes participating in awareness and training programs, respecting the rights of differently abled students, and promoting a culture of inclusivity and non-discrimination.

7. REVIEW OF POLICY:

The Equal Opportunity Cell (EOC), in consultation with relevant stakeholders, may suggest changes to its policies and procedures based on experience and evolving needs. The EOC shall be authorized to recommend changes, subject to approval from the Vice Chancellor or the University's Board of Management.

8. POLICY CUSTODIAN:

The EOC will serve as the custodian of this policy, overseeing its implementation and ensuring compliance.

9. APPROVAL BODY:

This policy is approved by the Vice-Chancellor of Vishwakarma University and is effective from the date of approval or revision of the policy as mentioned.

Sign:

Sign:

Dr. Sukdeo Ingale Co-ordinator, IQAC

Prof. (Dr.) Chetan Kapadnis Director,

Prof. (Dr.) Siddharth Jabade

IQAC

Vice-Chancellor Vishwakarma University

Prepared By

Verified By

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