



POLICY DOCUMENT FOR PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR THE DIFFERENTLY ABLED

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose

This policy document is intended to act as a guideline for providing facilities and resources for the differently-abled in the college campus that would enable them to lead their campus life in a dignified, and self-reliant way. The document envisages to develop an equitable environment that promotes inclusive education and enables the differently-abled pursue their higher education with ease.

1.2 Scope

- This document describes special provisions within the campus in order to make the institution environment friendly for the differently abled. This document is prepared to encompass orthopedically and visually challenged persons who are seeking to participate in the mainstream higher education. This includes infrastructural, academic and support facilities.
- This policy document is prepared in conformity with the PWD act 2016 and other statutory requirements and may be helpful for all the stakeholders such as differently abled students, their parents, teaching and non-teaching staff.
- The policy document also aims to describe various assistive technologies that can be used in academics which conform to the accessibility standards and regulations issued by the concerned agencies from time to time.

2 DEFINITIONS

- **The College:** Khandesh College Education Society's Moolji Jaitha Autonomous College, Jalgaon affiliated to KavayitriBahinabaiChaudhari North Maharashtra University, Jalgaon.
- **Differently abled:** Those persons who suffer from physical or mental impairments which obstruct the normal course of their life.
- **Disability:** A variety of physical and mental infirmities can hamper a person from leading a normal life. These disabilities include orthopedically and visually challenged categories.
- **Disability Acts:** The three important acts concerning the differently-abled persons in India viz.,:



- The Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016
- Rehabilitation Council of India Act, 1992
- **The Center:** The Dreamy Eyes Resource Center for the Differently abled: The facilitation center established by the KCE Society in the Knowledge Resource Center of Moolji Jaitha College to provide educational resources and training for the differently abled.
- **Academic Coordinator:** A differently abled, well qualified and trained person appointed by the college to provide necessary support and conduct periodic training programs for the differently abled.
- **Administrative Coordinator:** The Director of the Knowledge Resource Center shall act as the Administrative Coordinator of the Center.

3 POLICY

3.1 Recommendation for General Administration within the academic institute:

Built infrastructure such as buildings, roads, walkways and footpaths, gardens, canteen, gymnasium, yoga hall etc. and empty spaces including playgrounds of the campus shall be made accessibility compliant in accordance with the directives and guidelines issued by the ministry of urban development under the head 'The National Building Code' so as to create a barrier free built environment for Persons with disabilities. Such a barrier free environment shall the differently abled to have equal access to the academic environment and may be able to independently perform their academic activities with ease.

3.2 Recommendation for Budgetary Allocation:

As per RPWD act 2016, the college may provide appropriate adequate budgetary funding in the institutional budget to build accessibility to infrastructure, institutional digital services, academic course content, procurement of assistive technologies for students and staff with disabilities. In addition to above budget may be allotted for assistive technology training, organization of general sensitization programs about special needs of differently abled people, provision for carrying out disability related research, faculty training for disability inclusion and other disability accommodation in the system, etc.



3.3 Recommendation for the establishment of a Resource Center:

The College's Dreamy Eyes Resource Center for the differently abled shall act as the nodal Center to ensure accessibility compliances in the entire academic system of the institute. The Center's academic activities shall be coordinated by a qualified, regular, accessibility and assistive technology certified permanent staff to plan and conduct periodic training programs for the differently abled. The administrative activities shall be supervised by the Administrative Coordinator and for this purpose, the Director of the Knowledge Resource Center of the college may be chosen. The resource Centers shall strive to provide:

1. appropriate assistive technologies and suitable training to individuals with disabilities,
2. provide guidance and counseling,
3. redressal of grievances related to accessibility in respect of persons with disabilities,
4. sensitization of all the stakeholders that are associated with the institutes etc.
5. to procure assistive technology enabled accessible material such as Braille Displays, Screen reader software, Scanning and reading software, Speech recognition software, Braille printing devices, Refreshable braille display, Plex talk recorder, Talking calculator, Braille, Braille slate and stylus, Taylor frame, Tactile geometric set, braille hand drawing kit, Tactile graphic material, DAISY/e-material, talking calculator, Taylor Frame, accessible laboratory equipment and material such as talking measuring devices, including talking ammeter, volt meter, thermometer, talking color recognizer, talking stop watch, talking weighing machine, tactile measuring devices, measuring cylinder, tactile measuring scales, tactile models of science objects, chemical ball and stick models etc. and Braille Typewriter.
6. to impart students with disabilities with the knowledge of use of assistive technologies to perform academic assignments independently with the help of the resource Center. The center must also enlighten the differently abled students to take credits of assistive technology related courses along with their regular degree programs in which they are enrolled.

3.4 Recommendation for college website and other content hosted on the World Wide Web:

The academic web services offered by the college online such as the college website, mobile applications (which may be developed and deployed by the college in future), Intranet



services, all digital documents, web mail services and web based applications for academic services such as online admission, online examination, e-learning and other academic processes shall be made accessibility compliant as per Web Content Accessibility Guidelines and Government of India Guidelines for Web Accessibility. All digital gadgetry procurements shall be with the consideration of appropriate accessibility compliances. Similarly, the academic course content hosted on the college library portal shall be made accessibility compliant including those features that come with the DAISY, PDF accessibility, E-pub Accessibility etc.

3.5 Recommendations for Admission process:

The notice boards of the college displaying admission notices shall be placed at appropriate places with adequate lighting and at appropriate height keeping in view the requirements of the differently abled students. Entrance examination of academic programs, results, merit lists etc., if hosted on the college website, shall be made accessible to persons with all kinds of disabilities. Suitable assistance shall be provided to the individuals with disabilities in the college campus during the admission process while fulfilling the document formalities. For filling the online admission forms from within the college campus, volunteers may be deployed to assist the differently abled. Hostel rector shall be sensitized to provide preferential accessibility accommodation in the hostel rooms.

3.6 Recommendations for Teaching and learning process:

Periodic sensitization and awareness programs are to be held for all faculty members about the specific academic needs of the differently abled individuals. Faculty members shall be trained to employ various assistive technologies in their classroom teaching in the inclusive classrooms consisting of normal and differently abled students. Orientation of the teaching and non-teaching staff about various accessibility standards and guidelines issued by the governmental agencies and Supreme Court directives which are applicable in academic environments to be carried out.

3.7 Recommendations for Examination and evaluation process:

- Accessibility compliance of Examination form, Online Examination portal, Mobile Application, Results notification and Declaration etc.




- Conduct examination in accessible building premises as per provisions laid down by ministry of urban development harmonize guidelines and space standards on barrier free built environment for Persons with disabilities and elderly persons
- In case of blindness or total visual impairment, examination can be allowed with writers or scribes for writing examinations.
- In case of Dwarfism, special furniture such as desk with lower height or chair with height adjustment may be provided.

4. Campus services:

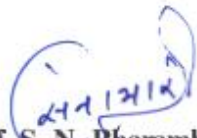
Following are the recommendations of making various campus services accessible for all kinds of individuals with disabilities. There is no need to develop Special Libraries, Laboratories, Classrooms, Hostel for persons with disabilities etc. Only few changes are needed to be done in the available facilities to make them accessible for persons with disabilities.

DOCUMENT CONTROL INFORMATION

Document Name	Policy Document for Differently abled
Version Number	1.0
Date of Approval	17-12-2020
Approved by	IQAC Committee
Date of Commencement	1-1-2021
Date of Last Review	-
Date for Next Review	1-1-2023


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