



## **Utkal University** **Bhubaneswar 751004, Odisha**

### **POLICY FOR DIFERENTLY ABLED (Divyangjan) AND INITIATIVES**

Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 prohibits discrimination against individuals with physical and mental disabilities. Utkal University is against any kind of discrimination against anyone on any ground including disability. The Institute aims to promote an inclusive teaching, learning and working environment in which disabled students and staff are not disadvantaged or treated differently. The University aims to make each of its programs, services, and activities accessible to and usable by all the persons with disabilities. All the members of Utkal University share the responsibility for assisting people with disabilities to secure the benefits of campus programs, services, and activities. These guidelines apply to all the teaching and, non-teaching staff members and student of the Institute.

#### **Objectives of the Policy**

1. To provide equal accessible and inclusive educational opportunities to differently-abled persons in the University.
2. To create awareness about the specific educational needs of differently-abled persons.
3. To develop an inclusive culture to avoid discrimination, exploitation and exclusion of Disable Students and Staff from any sphere of work and education.
4. To implement suitable regulatory mechanism for effective delivery of services to Disable Students and Staff of the University.
5. To ensure implementation of all legislations with respect to persons with disabilities.
6. To ensure full participation of persons with disabilities and to provide them the equal opportunities for development.
7. To equip the Institute with the infrastructural and other facilities to offer easy access of differently-abled persons.
8. To provide special devices in the Institute that will augment the learning experiences of differently-abled persons.

#### **Policy Statement**

Utkal University shall facilitate higher education for differently abled persons (Divyangjan) in every stream and would have necessary aids and appliances for higher education of Divyangjan.

#### **Governing bodies**

Utkal University will constitute an expert committee which will be responsible in formulating, implementing and revising policy and guidelines for persons with disabilities. The committee shall be constituted by the Vice Chancellor and should include member from administrative unit, faculty, doctor, and person(s) with disabilities.

#### **Work components**

The major functions of the Expert Committee for persons with disabilities include:

1. To address all disability related issues in the Institute and research centres.
2. To ensure overall accessibility for persons with disabilities in the entire Institute system including departments and research centres.
3. To guide activities of the enabling units or resource centre by providing expert suggestions.
4. To resolve grievances pertaining to any matter of persons with disabilities. The matter shall be first referred to the Heads of the Departments. If it is not resolved, it should be sent to the competent authorities.

### **Admission**

1. With respect to enrolment, a qualified person with a disability must satisfy the academic standards required for admission and meet the academic requirements established for any given course, degree, or certificate program.
2. With respect to employment, training, work assignments, and promotion, a qualified individual with a disability must be able to perform the minimum essential functions of the job.
3. Moreover, relaxation shall be allowed as per the Government rules.
4. Reservation: Five percent of the total seats in all the departments are reserved for such students.
5. Free Hostel accommodation is provided to such students

### **Learning resources**

- Books and other facilities (computer, audio study materials) are available for blind and other persons in the library.
- Issue Counter for books is located at the ground floor.
- Computer facility

### **Infrastructure/Facilities**

- Photographs for Disable friendly washroom from administrative block and other places.
- Ramps at different places
- Lift at Administrative building and in the library
- Wheel chair
- Rest room for DA
- Class rooms preferably at ground floor
- Battery operated vehicle

### **Examinations**

- Assistance in examination: Provision of scribe; extra time to specific examinees provided as per rule.