

AMITY UNIVERSITY

G-75

POLICY GUIDELINES FOR DISABILITY SUPPORT

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In exercise of its powers conferred under the provisions of Section 7(x) of AUUP Act 2005 and Article 6.3 b(viii) of First Statues of Amity University Uttar Pradesh, has laid down this policy with an objective to ensure fair and consistent treatment of all students, including students with a disability, in accordance with their distinct needs and in a manner consistent with academic principles.

1. Short Title, Application and Commencement

- 1.1 The policy may be called Amity University Uttar Pradesh **Policy For Disability Support**
- 1.2 The Policy shall apply to all the students with disability.
- 1.3 The Policy shall come into force with effect from the date of approval.

2. Purpose:

2.1To maintain the physical and virtual environment that supports disable students.

2.2To ensure that our admission do not create unnecessary barriers and persons are not denied admission on the basis of their disability;

2.3To encourage disability disclosure among students, while maintaining confidentiality

2.4To understand the problems of disabled students and to determine support needs

2.5To ensure the support to disabled students remains relevant

3. Introduction

Amity University Uttar Pradesh is committed to equality, diversity and nondiscrimination and provide full support to the individuals with disabilities. The University must remove barriers and provide opportunities to students with a disability, enabling them to access University services, programmes and facilities and to be welcomed as participating members of the University community. The University's goal is to foster an inclusive culture where we recognise that people are different. Some people may not need any extra support, but for others making 'reasonable adjustments' will enable them to flourish.

Diverse communities of students are provided with equal opportunity and supportive environment where it is ensured that all members of our University are adequately supported to fulfill their potential, particularly those with a disability.

¹ G 75 approved vide 22nd Academic Council Meeting held on 30 November 2015 (Item 22.27-I) & vide 15th Executive Council Meeting held 21st December 2015 (Item No. 15.10)

Amity University shall treat qualified all students with disabilities without discrimination in all its practices. Therefore, a process has been established to assist individuals with disabilities.

To make University disable friendly

- All buildings, library and administrative blocks shall be connected through ramps.
- All buildings shall have elevators
- Employment opportunities for students with special needs shall be explored.
- Construction of special toilets in the existing buildings.

4. Scope

The Policy is applicable to the individuals with disabilities. Our support includes, but is not limited to, the following conditions:

- <u>Specific learning difficulties (e.g. dyslexia, dyspraxia)</u>
- Blindness or visual impairment
- Deafness or hearing impairment
- Mobility difficulties (e.g. wheelchair users, back pain, hyper mobility)
- Mental health difficulties (e.g. depression, anxiety)
- Autistic spectrum conditions (e.g. Asperger syndrome)
- Long-term health issues (e.g. diabetes, arthritis, cancer, HIV)

5. **Procedure for Requesting Accommodations**

5.1 Responsibilities of Students with Disabilities

5.1.1 Every student with a disability must provide the necessary documentation to the Head of Institution

5.1.2 New students are encouraged to self-identify at the time of admission.

5.1.3 All new and returning students are required to put their request to their respective Head of Institution at the beginning of semester.

5.1.4 Students who become disabled, either permanently or temporarily, and students with disabilities whose health status changes significantly during their time at the University, should contact their Head of Institution as soon as possible.

5.2 Process

- 5.2.1 Every student with a disability must provide the necessary documentation to the Head of Institution.
- 5.2.2 The Head of Institution bring the request for the needs of student with disability to the attention of Dean, Student Welfare.
- 5.2.3 Dean, Student Welfare will put the request to the committee constituted for the purpose. The composition of Committee is as follows:
 - Dean/ Head of Institution as Chair
 - Upto two Dean/HoI as Member
 - Two Senior Faculty members as Members
 - One HR Representative as Member
 - One Administration Representative as Member
 - One QAE Representative as Member
 - Two Student Representatives (one from Special Education) as Member
 - Two Parents Representatives as Members
 - One nominee of Vice Chancellor as Member
 - Dean, Student Welfare as Member Secretary
- 5.2.4 Student may be asked to provide verification of their disability by the committee.
- 5.2.5 The committee puts up the recommendations for the approval of Vice Chancellor
- 5.2.6 After the approval of, the request is forwarded to the concerned department and they must ensure that the request is processed within 10 days of the approval in order allow for arrangement to be made in timely manner.
- 5.2.7 The student shall be informed of the decision regarding the requested facility within ten working days.

6 The Appeal Process

- 6.2 If student disagrees with a decision regarding their request, he or she has a right to appeal the decision.
- 6.3 The appeal must be in writing, stating the reason(s) for the disagreement and sent to Dean, Student Welfare within ten working days of the initial decision.

- 6.4 The Dean, Student Welfare shall review the appeal, may request any pertinent information, and make a recommendation to the Vice Chancellor within 15 working days after receipt of the appeal.
- 6.5 The Vice Chancellor shall make the final decision regarding the appeal within 15 working days after receipt of the recommendations of Dean, Student Welfare

7 Confidentiality of Medical Information

- 7.2 Medical information must be maintained confidentially and separate from regular records of students. The medical records are retained in the students' dossier maintained by the Institution.
- 7.3 The diagnosis of medical condition or the details of medical treatment shall not be revealed to anyone. However, if student with disability chooses to share this kind of information with others, it shall be treated as his/her personal choice. The information should still be treated as confidential.
- 7.4 Any materials including the request for any special facility and any medical information shall be placed in a separate file. This file should be held in a separate, distinct, and secure location.