MUFFAKHAM JAH COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY

(Established by Sultan-Ul-Uloom Education Society in 1980)

(Affiliated to Osmania University, Hyderabad) (Approved By The AICTE & Accreditated By NBA)



POLICY DOCUMENT FOR SUPPORT OF DISABLED PERSONS

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Disability is not a phenomenon but is a phase. Everyone at one point or the other passes through such phases. The elderly, ill, pregnant, obese, children, persons with fracture or with luggage could all be described as passing through a phase of disability. Even during such phases each one has the right to live in dignity. Accessibility, therefore, cannot be an aspect of sympathy but is very much the right of every individual. Barrier-free design, therefore, is a professional obligation as well as a societal commitment of design professionals. Though unintended, most of our buildings today remain inaccessible to many. This is largely due to the lack of conscious efforts, concerns for the disabled and lack of basic information on what constitutes an accessible design. A universal design, not remaining synonymous only with the provision of ramps, involves many more aspects to consider. This neither implies an additional demand nor involves an extra cost, if integrated right from the conception of the design. With this premise it is imperative to compile a comprehensive reference document that stipulates necessary provisions for universal designs -especially the space design.

On the face of it, it is only persons with disabilities for whom barriers become major obstacles. However, it is necessary to realize that every person, at some stage of life, faces barriers. A small child, an elderly or infirm person, a pregnant lady, the temporarily disabled, all are vulnerable to barriers. Therefore, to list out people affected by barriers - - Wheelchair users - People with limited walking/ movement abilities - People with visual impairment or low vision - People with hearing impairment - Elderly and infirm persons - Pregnant ladies - Children - People with temporary disabilities Why is it necessary to remove barriers? Barriers make an environment unsafe and cause a high level of difficulty to the user. But more importantly, barriers cause spaces to be out of reach, denying people the opportunity of participation in various spheres of life. This ranges from education, economic, social, cultural and many other activities. This loss of opportunity is not only a loss for the person concerned but also society's loss which misses out on their contribution. Simply put, a barrier causes exclusion and its removal is necessary for ensuring inclusion and participation of all in society. The goal of education for students with or without special needs is to prepare them for a happy, productive and useful civil life. When education has become the right of every student whether with disability or without disability, it is important that every student of the institute going age receives education in the manner he is receptive to. They must be provided optimal support. Special students need this all the more to supplement their different talents.

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Granting Extra Time

The Controller of Examinations on the recommendations of a Govt. Medical Officer not below the rank of an Asst. Surgeon and the Principal has the power to grant extra time to differently abled candidates for answering papers at University examinations. Extra time of 30 minutes shall be granted to such students to write the examination of 3 hours duration with proportionate reduction of extra time for papers of shorter duration.

Use of Scribes

The Controller of Examinations has the power to allow scribes for blind candidates and a small category among disabled candidates whose disability incapacitates the student from writing based on the recommendations of a Govt. Medical Officer not below the rank of a civil surgeon and the Principal. Such students shall be seated in a separate room. The maximum number of students belonging to the above categories allowable into an examination hall shall not exceed five. An invigilator shall be allotted to supervise them (Ratio 1:5)

Appointment of scribes

In case of students who are eligible to avail of the services of scribes, the University shall authorise the Principal to appoint scribes according to the following conditions.

The scribe shall not be an employee of the college/centre where the examination is conducted. The scribe shall not be a relative of the student who is appearing for the examination. The educational qualifications of the scribe shall be less than those of the student. The proforma signed by the scribe shall be forwarded to the University.

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