



# VIKRAMA SIMHAPURI UNIVERSITY

Nellore – 524 324, Andhra Pradesh, India

## **Disabled-friendly, Barrier-free Environment Policy Document**

Vikrama Simhapuri University has a lush green campus and is situated in the state of Andhra Pradesh. The strategic objectives of VSU are inclusive and aim at providing value and skill-based education to diverse communities and backgrounds. This also includes the physically challenged, and the university has made provisions to make the campus and its facilities an accessible and comfortable place of study for the students. The Institution strictly inhibits any discriminatory practices that deprive specially-abled persons of an opportunity to pursue higher education.

The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act of 2016, prohibits discrimination against individuals with physical and mental disabilities. VSU is against all kinds of discrimination on any grounds including disability

VSU intends to advance a comprehensive and inclusive teaching and learning environment in which specially challenged students and employees are given easy and comfortable access to infrastructure and facilities that help them overcome the challenges of their disability. The University designs its programs, administration, and other activities keeping in view the challenges faced by disabled persons. All the authorities of the University strive to forward a helping hand to the differently abled so that they get the maximum benefit of all programs in the University

### **Scope of the Policy:**

The scope of the policy extends to specially-abled persons on the campus and the facilities and opportunities provided for them.

**Disability:** Disability is a term that includes motor and sensory limitations (eg, mobility, vision, or hearing impairments). It also includes disabilities resulting from chronic illnesses and syndromes; invisible disabilities, such as psychological and emotional disorders, learning

disabilities, heart disease, diabetes, asthma, arthritis, epilepsy, acquired brain injuries (ABI), and acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), are also included in the term disability. Many disabilities vary in degree and type of limitation; therefore, accommodations must also vary and should be tailored to the needs of the individual.

### **Qualified Persons with Disability.**

1. The expression "qualified individual with a disability alludes to a person with a disability who is qualified to participate in any given university program or activity.
2. About enrolment, a certified individual with a disability must fulfill the scholastic guidelines required for affirmation and meet the scholarly necessities set up for any given course, degree, or certificate program.
3. Concerning employment, training, work assignments, and promotion, a qualified individual with a disability must be able to perform the minimum essential functions of the job.
4. However, relaxation shall be allowed as per the Government rules.

### **Objectives of the Policy**

1. To create an inclusive culture that avoids discrimination, exploitation, and exclusion of physically challenged students and staff in all spheres of learning and work.
2. To create a suitable regulatory mechanism for the effective delivery of services to physically challenged students and staff of the University
3. To ensure the implementation of all legislation concerning persons with disabilities.
4. To ensure the full participation of persons with disabilities, and to provide them with equal development opportunities.
5. To provide the resources to achieve the above objectives. The terms used in the policy have the meaning mentioned in chapter 1 of the rights of the persons with disability Act 2016,

**To provide the following facilities for physically challenged students and staff in the University.**

1. To provide lifts and ramps that provide the specially challenged with easy access to all the classrooms, laboratories, and other facilities on the campus.
2. To provide scribes for blind students to take their examinations.
3. To have a special reading room in the library for the blind, where computers that contain software to enable them to listen to audio books are provided for them.
4. To provide counseling for students with disabilities on the types of courses they can study for higher education.
5. To ensure admission of students with disabilities as possible through the open quota
6. To ensure that the University documents orders dealing with fee concessions, examination procedures, reservation policies, etc. referring to persons with disabilities as per the government policies from time to time.
7. To facilitate research in the institution on assessing the educational needs of persons with disabilities enrolled in higher education.
8. To support students with disability and assist them in getting appropriate employment after their studies.

**Implementation:**

Providing access means making all the services, activities, and benefits thereof, fully available to people with disabilities. The University provides several provisions for creating a disabled-friendly campus. The management and faculty members ensure appropriate/reasonable accommodations for each person with a disability and work to resolve access problems. The campus is a barrier-free and accessible space for physically challenged persons.

**The following principles are strictly observed in the institution:**

All PG programs and activities are accessible.

- Students with disabilities are provided accessible textbooks and study material
- Awareness among all the teachers and non-teaching staff regarding the issues of accessibility is conducted
- Web services for lodging compliant with National and international accessibility standards and regulations such as Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) with appropriate versions and Government of India Guidelines for Web accessibility.

**Examination:**

1. The University makes reasonable changes in the educational plan and assessment framework to meet the particular needs of physically challenged students. Sensible convenience will be made to meet the necessities of students with disabilities whenever required. The necessary guidelines and regulations have been issued by the examination department for use of scribes in exams.

**Committee to implement the Policy on the campus:**

The Vice-Chancellor will appoint a committee to monitor the implementation of the policy initiatives on campus with the following members:

1. Dean, Faculty of Arts.
2. Dean, Faculty of Science.
3. Dean, Faculty of Commerce and Management.
4. Principal, VSU College.
5. Head, Department of Management.
6. Head, Department of Social Work.

7. Warden, University Hostels.

8. IQAC members.

### **Approval and Review**

The disabled-friendly Barrier Free Environment Policy shall be reviewed once in three years or as and when required. The Registrar of the University is the custodian of the Policy.

## **Annexure-I**

### **The Right of Persons with Disabilities Bill 2016**

#### **(Passed in December 2016)**

"The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Bill - 2016" replaces the existing the Persons with Disabilities(equal opportunities, protection of rights and full participation) Act, 1995, which was enacted 21 years back. Disability has been defined based on an evolving and dynamic concept.

The bill aims at

- Respect for inherent dignity, individual autonomy including the freedom to make one's own choices, and independence of persons.
- Non-discrimination.
- Full and effective participation and inclusion in society.
- Respect for difference and acceptance of persons with disabilities as part of human diversity and humanity.
- Equality of opportunity.
- Accessibility.
- Equality between men and women.
- Respect for the evolving capacities of children with disabilities and respect for the right of children with disabilities to preserve their identities.

The types of disabilities have been increased from existing 7 to 21 compared to PWD act 1995 and the Central Government will have the power to add more types of disabilities. The 21 disabilities are given below:-

- Blindness
- Low-vision
- Leprosy Cured persons
- Hearing Impairment (deaf and hard of hearing)
- Locomotor Disability
- Dwarfism
- Intellectual Disability

- Mental Illness
- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Cerebral Palsy
- Muscular Dystrophy
- Chronic Neurological conditions
- Specific Learning Disabilities
- Multiple Sclerosis
- Speech and Language disability
- Thalassemia
- Hemophilia
- Sickle Cell disease
- Multiple Disabilities including deaf blindness
- Acid Attack victim
- Parkinson's disease

**Some related definitions:-**

- a) "Blindness" refers to a condition where a person suffers from any of the following conditions, namely:
  - Total absence of sight. or
  - Visual acuity not exceeding 6/60 or 20/200 (Snellen) in the better eye with correcting lenses; or
  - Limitation of the field of vision subtending an angle of 20 degree or worse;
- b) "Cerebral palsy" means a group of non-progressive conditions of a person characterized by abnormal motor control posture resulting from brain insult or injuries occurring in the pre-natal, peri-natal or infant period of development;
- c) "Hearing impairment" means loss of sixty decibels or more in the better ear in the conversational range of frequencies;
- d) "Locomotor disability" means disability of the bones, joints muscles leading to substantial restriction of the movement of the limbs or any form of cerebral palsy.
- e) "Mental illness" means any mental disorder other than mental retardation;
- f) "Mental retardation" means a condition of arrested or incomplete development of mind of a person which is specially characterized by sub normality of intelligence;
- g) "Person with disability" means a person suffering from not less than forty per cent of any disability as certified by a medical authority;
- h) "Person with low vision" means a person with impairment of visual functioning even after treatment or standard refractive correction but who uses or is potentially capable of using vision for the planning or execution of a task with appropriate assistive device;

- i) "Rehabilitation" refers to a process aimed at enabling persons with disabilities to reach and maintain their optimal physical, sensory, intellectual, psychiatric or social functional levels;

### **STATE COORDINATION COMMITTEE**

Every State Government shall, by notification, constitute a body to be known as the State Coordination Committee to exercise the powers conferred on, and to perform the function assigned to it, under this Act, chaired by the Minister in-charge of the Department of Social Welfare in the State Government, Chairperson or Vice- Chairperson, ex officio; Subject to the provisions of this Act, the function of the State Coordination Committee shall be to serve as the state focal point on disability matters and facilitate the continuous evolution of a comprehensive policy towards solving the problems faced by persons with disabilities. The State Government shall constitute a committee to be known as the **State Executive Committee** to perform the functions assigned to it under this Act, chaired by the Secretary, Department of Social Welfare, Chairperson, ex officio. Governments shall by notification prepare a comprehensive education scheme which shall make Provision for-

- (a) Transport facilities to the children with disabilities or in the alternative financial incentives to parents or guardians to enable their children with disabilities to attend schools.
- (b) The removal of architectural barriers from schools, colleges or other institution, imparting vocational and professional training;
- (c) The supply of books, uniforms and other materials to children with disabilities attending school.
- (d) The grant of scholarship to students with disabilities.
- (e) Setting up of appropriate forum for the redressal of grievances of parent, regarding the placement of their children with disabilities;
- (f) Suitable modification in the examination system to eliminate purely mathematical questions for the benefit of blind students and students with low vision;
- (g) Restructuring of curriculum for the benefit of children with disabilities;
- (h) Restructuring the curriculum for benefit of students with hearing impairment to facilitate them to take  
only one language as part of their curriculum.

All educational institutions shall provide or cause to be provided amanuensis students and students with low vision.

**EMPLOYMENT** Appropriate Governments shall

- (a) Identify posts, in the establishments, which can be reserved for the persons with disability;
- (b) At periodical intervals not exceeding three years, review the list of posts identified and update the list

taking into consideration the developments in technology.

Government shall appoint in every establishment such percentage of vacancies not less than three per cent for persons or class of persons with disability of which one per cent. Each shall be reserved for persons suffering from-

- 1. Blindness or low vision;
- 2. Bearing impairment;
- 3. Loco motor disability or cerebral palsy, in the posts identified for each disability;

Governments and local authorities shall by notification formulate schemes for ensuring employment of persons with disabilities, and such schemes may provide for-

- (a) The training and welfare of persons with disabilities;
- (b) The relaxation of upper age limit;
- (c) Regulating the employment;
- (d) Health and safety measures and creation of a non-handicapping environment in places where persons with disabilities are employed;
- (e) The manner in which and the person by whom the cost of operating the schemes is to be defrayed; and (f) Constituting the authority responsible for the administration of the scheme.

All Government educational institutions and other educational institutions receiving aid from the Government shall reserve not less than three percent seat for persons with disabilities. The appropriate Governments and local authorities shall reserve not less than three percent in all poverty alleviation schemes for the benefit of persons with disabilities. The appropriate Governments and the local authorities shall, within the limits of their economic capacity and development, provide incentives to employers both in public and private sectors to ensure that at least five percent of their work force is composed of persons with disabilities.



## **NON-DISCRIMINATION**

Establishments in the transport sector shall, within the limits of their economic capacity and development for the benefit of persons with disabilities, take special measures to-

- (a) Adapt rail compartments, buses, Vessels and aircrafts in such a way as to permit easy access to such persons;
- (b) Adapt toilets in rail compartments, vessels, aircrafts and waiting rooms in such a way as to permit the wheel chair users to use them conveniently.

Governments and the local authorities shall, within the limits of their economic capacity and development. Provide for-

- (a) Installation of auditory signals at red lights in the public roads for the benefit of persons with visually handicap;
- (b) Causing curb cuts and slopes to be made in pavements for the easy access of wheel chair users;
- (c) Engraving on the surface of the zebra crossing for the blind or for persons with low vision;
- (d) Engraving on the edges of railway platforms for the blind or for persons with low vision;
- (e) Devising appropriate symbols of disability;
- (f) Warning signals at appropriate places.

Governments and the local authorities shall, within the limits of their economic capacity and development, provide for-

- (a) Ramps in public buildings;
- (b) Braille symbols and auditory signals in elevators or lifts;
- (c) Braille symbols and auditory signals in elevators or lifts;
- (d) Ramps in hospitals, primary health centers and other medical care and rehabilitation institutions.

## **RESEARCH AND MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT**

Governments and local authorities shall promote and sponsor research, inter alia, in the following areas-

- (a) Prevention of disability;
- (b) Rehabilitation including community based rehabilitation;
- (c) Development of assistive devices including their psychosocial aspects;
- (d) Job identification;
- (e) On site modifications in offices and factories.

Governments shall provide financial assistance to universities, other institutions of higher learning, professional bodies and non-governmental research-. Units or institutions, for undertaking research for Special Education, Rehabilitation and manpower development. Every State Government may, by notification appoint a Commissioner for persons with disabilities for the purpose of this Act.

**ANnecure –II**

**Feedback form for Persons with Disability (PWD) Students/Staff Vikrama Simhapuri**

**University Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)**

**Feedback form for Persons with Disability (PWD) Students/Staff**

**ANnecure –II**

**Feedback form for Persons with Disability (PWD) Students/Staff Vikrama Simhapuri University  
Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)**


**Feedback form for Persons with Disability (PWD) Students/Staff**

1. Name:	YEGURU SURESH
2. Student Status or staff designation	Research scholar
3. Department	Dept of Telugu
4. Contact No	9490340013
5. Email id	Yegurusuresh03@gmail.com
6. Kind of Disability	Orthopaedic Disability (57%)
7. Requirements	Awareness programming for Disability students Arrangement for easy Mobility in the campus
8. Feedback about University's support for P.W.D:	Friendly Environment in campus

*Y. Suresh*  
Signature

Date: 18/07/22

**Suggestions for betterment of facility from student /Staff with disability**

	<p>We all know that disabled people have to face so many problem during daily life, even though the university structure is very familiar to these people but still it needed some advancement says. There is a dire need of the automated wheel chair in every department which helps the ones to roam around in departments tension free.</p>
<p>Student /Faculty Details Y. Suresh , Ph.D(FT), Dept of Telugu, VS University College ,Nellore</p>	

ANuexure -II

Feedback form for Persons with Disability (PWD) Students/Staff Vikrama Simhapuri University  
Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)

Feedback form for Persons with Disability (PWD) Students/Staff

1. Name:	B. slyam Sundar Bhagavan
2. Student Status or staff designation	Assistant professor
3. Department	English
4. Contact No	8919870890
5. Email id	bhagavanbss@vso.ac.in
6. Kind of Disability	Visual Impairment
7. Requirements	Sports equipment for disabled persons. Braille Books, reading room.
8. Feedback about University's support for P.W.D:	I am satisfied with special infrastructure facilities arranged for disabled persons and issuing allowances.

Date: 17/7/2022



Signature  
LTI of BSS Bhagavan



Student /Faculty details  
Sri BSS Bagavan,  
Assistant Professor  
Dept of English,  
VS University College,  
Nellore

We all know that disabled people have many hurdles in accomplish their goals of life, even though the university structure is very familiar to me still I needed some supports from the faculty and students and administrators. I am satisfied with special infrastructure facility arranged for disabled persons and issuing allowances. It would be great if Braille books, reading room provided for visually impaired persons