

# KALINGA UNIVERSITY



---

## INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITY / SPECIAL NEEDS GUIDELINES OF KALINGA UNIVERSITY

---



### Kalinga University

(A State Private University established by the C.G. Private University Act, 2005)

Village Kotni, Near Mantralaya Atal Nagar (Naya) Raipur – 492101, Chhattisgarh India.



# **DISABILITY GUIDELINES STATEMENT: KALINGA UNIVERSITY**

## **INTRODUCTION**

Kalinga University follows this Disability Guidelines document as a set of guiding principles to all departments – academic and administrative – with a view to create a barrier-free, inclusive environment that values diversity, is free from unlawful discrimination or harassment and ensures equality of opportunity, dignity and respect for all immaterial of his/her dis/abilities. Through this Policy, Kalinga University aspires to enable and enhance the overall experience of all individuals (students and staff) including individuals with special needs and disabilities connected to the University in various capacities. The aim is to provide a healthy environment for learning and working that covers physical, intellectual, emotional and social (including sports and recreation) aspects of university experience.

It is expected that the authorities / individuals Rights of Persons with Disabilities Bill - 2016 Passed by Parliament of India on 14/12/2017 , United Nations Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2007, and the National Trust (Welfare of persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and multiple Disabilities) Act 1999. The provisions prescribed in these disability related legislations (facilities, Concessions, Exemptions and reservations) are mandatory to follow for all individuals and institutes. Various processes of the university and the affiliated colleges (like admission, curricular transactions, examination, placements etc) have to be in tune with these legislations. Any doubts / disputes / perceived ambiguities in this connection need to be referred to the Dean Students Welfare (DSW).

While all the above mentioned provisions are applicable in higher education, KU further intends to ensure application of these guiding principles, in order to move towards creating a more barrier free, right based and inclusive environment for individuals with special needs and for individuals with disabilities who are associated with KU in various capacities. Kalinga University places this statement on disability guidelines in public domain so that all involved can implement the same in an unbiased and uniform way across academic and administrative functions and areas of the Kalinga University.



## **THE BACKDROP**

Various National and International obligations are facilitating Indian society to be more barrier free, right based and inclusive. Indian higher education system is no exception. However, the real changes are brought about by individuals and organizational heads by modifying the activities and strategies in tune with these legal obligations and national policies. For this to happen, all concerned KU understand the disability issues and their roles in ensuring equal opportunities to individuals with various disabilities.

### **DISABILITY TYPES BENCHMARKED FOR CERTIFICATION**

1. Blindness
2. Low-vision
3. Leprosy Cured persons
4. Hearing Impairment (deaf and hard of hearing)
5. Loco motor Disability
6. Dwarfism
7. Intellectual Disability
8. Mental Illness
9. Autism Spectrum Disorder
10. Cerebral Palsy
11. Parkinson's disease
12. Chronic Neurological conditions
13. Specific Learning Disabilities
14. Speech and Language disability
15. Thalassemia
16. Sickle Cell disease
17. Acid Attack victim
18. Parkinson's disease



Legal framework in our country ensures the rights of individuals with these disabilities. However, the concerned individual needs disability certificate to avail various provisions. There are certain specific norms under which the concerned certifying authorities decide whether a particular individual is eligible for the provisions or not. This eligibility for disability certification is generally based upon the type, nature and degree of that disability. The Indian legal framework and the service delivery model provide for various **accommodations** which are generally categorized into:

- **Facilities** (for example, university providing ramp or a sign language interpreter)
- **Concessions** (for example, additional 20 minutes for writing exam)
- **Exemptions** (for example, lowering passing cut off or more grace marks)
- **Reservation** (for example reservation in public/private sector education and employment)

## **AIM OF THE STATEMENT**

The prime aim of this guiding document is to formulate measures which will ensure uniform implementation and monitoring of academic and social inclusion of individuals (students and other associates of KU) who have special needs and /or disabilities.

## **OBJECTIVE OF THE STATEMENT**

The Policy document serves to outline the guidelines to be followed to develop and strengthen an inclusive and enabling learning-working environment in the University for one and all.

The prime objective of the policy is to make an unambiguous list of reasonable accommodations (in tune with the earlier already existing regulations) entitled to each type of the disabilities and special needs along with the required procedure, formats and implementing norms to avail / offer these to appropriate candidates. The policy includes rights and responsibilities of students and staff who have disability. It also serves to outline the roles and responsibilities of the University and its affiliated departments / colleges to ensure fair and inclusive treatment of staff and students with disability and special needs.



## KALINGA UNIVERSITY COMMITMENT

### **Kalinga University is committed to:**

1. Facilitate the process of making University and college environment barrier including building and infrastructure – existing, that are currently being built and are built in future.
2. Orient and guide individuals associated in various capacities to deal / interact with individuals with special needs in a right based approach as against the charity approach.
3. Ensure implementing reservation, exemptions and concessions in tune with prescribed norms in current legislation to individuals associated in various capacities having certified disability in terms of education (particularly for students) and employment (particularly for the staff).
4. Ensure implementing curricular adaptations prescribed by this policy to the students of the university / affiliated colleges.
5. Create, adapt and use formats, procedures and norms which will ensure the implementation of the above points in all activities of the university including affiliation, eligibility, enrolment, curriculum development, curriculum transaction, examinations etc.
6. Guide and instruct affiliated colleges to implement the ‘disability guidelines statement’ and to review compliances.
7. Use technology to benefit students with special needs. Identify and deploy technology to benefit teaching-learning for students and faculty with special needs, wherever possible.
8. Ensure barrier free Provisioning of learning resources and additional facilities in the library to cater to needs for students and faculty with special needs. This can range from academic material to additional technology support for discovery, access and use of academic material.
9. Sensitize teaching and non-teaching staff on issues related to disability and special needs.
10. Create, maintain and update the records of individuals with disabilities associated with Kalinga University to be able to use the information for research and policies.



## **DISABILITY WISE ADAPTED LIBRARY FACILITY**

1. Reservation for schemes like book bank.
2. Allowing buddy transactions for book lending (authorize classmate signing on behalf of PWD while lending books),
3. Ensuring access to library spaces and library technology,
4. Extra days for book lending,
5. Easy access to book catalogues,
6. Reserved reading spaces.
7. Making technology available for individuals with visual impairment. Many manufacturers produce software's to enable users who are visually impaired. It is possible for the users to hear what appears onscreen. Some software provides output in Braille.
8. A few magnifiers of different powers can be made available for individuals with low vision.

## **CONCLUSION**

Kalinga University is committed to upholding the provisions of Persons With Disability (PWD) Act, 1995 and the United Nations Convention on the Right of Person with Disabilities (UNCRPD). However, desirable objectives can only be achieved if all concerned are together in this mission of making higher education in at Kalinga University barrier free, right based and inclusive.

