

# Policy Document: Assistance for Specially-Abled Individuals at Madhya Pradesh Bhoj Open University

## Introduction

Madhya Pradesh Bhoj Open University aims to provide equal access to education for all its students, including specially-abled individuals. It is essential to ensure special assistance for such individuals to ensure that they have access to the same quality of education as others. This policy delineates the guidelines for accessibility and provision of assistance for specially-abled individuals at the university.

### Objectives

- To ensure equitable access to education facilities for each student with special needs.
- To create a barrier-free learning environment for the students.
- To provide academic support systems to students with special abilities.
- To ensure a safe and comfortable learning environment.
- To make the campus inclusive and compliant with the rights of people with disabilities.

### **Disability Support Services**

The university shall take measures to provide special assistance to students in the following ways.

**1**. **Accessibility**: The university shall ensure that its physical environment and digital content are accessible to all students with disabilities.

### 2. Support and Assistance:

• Identifying the specific needs of students with disabilities is essential, and the university shall make all efforts to provide necessary achdemic, and physical support to such students.

• Provision of assistive devices, e-books, audio textbooks, accessible lecture notes, and examination materials in suitable formats are some of the ways the university shall provide assistance to students with disabilities.

• The university shall evaluate on a case-to-case basis whether extra time or additional resources for certain impairments are necessary.

• Assigned mentors or assistants to attend to the unique needs of students with specific disabilities shall be provided.

**3. Counselling and Emotional Support**: The university shall ensure that the mental health and well-being of students with disabilities receive due attention by offering counselling services.

#### 4. Infrastructure accommodations:

• The university ensures that the campus is wheelchair accessible with ramps and elevators.

• Designated parking spaces for students with disabilities are provided on campus.

• Access to designated toilets for persons with disabilities is available.

**5. Priority for admission to persons with disabilities:** Persons with disabilities shall be considered a preferential category while taking admissions. The university is committed to providing them with adequate support for their education.

The university shall conduct periodic reviews to assess whether further measures are necessary to assist students with disabilities in their learning.

The university is committed to providing equal opportunities for students with disabilities by providing an inclusive, accessible, and supportive learning environment.

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