

Policy for Persons with Disabilities (PwD) Students of Bokaro Steel Mines College

Introduction

Bokaro Steel Mines College is committed to ensuring equal access to education for all students, including those with disabilities. The college recognizes the rights of Persons with Disabilities (PwD) and aims to create an inclusive and supportive learning environment that enables PwD students to achieve their academic and personal goals without barriers. This policy aligns with the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, UGC guidelines, and other relevant regulations to provide necessary facilities and accommodations.

Objectives of the Policy

The primary objectives of this policy are:

- To provide accessible infrastructure and learning resources for PwD students.
- To ensure equal opportunities in academic and extracurricular activities.
- To offer necessary academic accommodations and support services.
- To promote awareness and sensitization regarding disability inclusion among students and staff.
- To establish a grievance redressal mechanism for addressing challenges faced by PwD students.

Definition of Persons with Disabilities (PwD)

In accordance with the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, PwD students include those with:

- Visual impairment (blindness, low vision)
- Hearing impairment (deaf, hard of hearing)
- Locomotor disabilities (paralysis, limb impairment, dwarfism)
- Intellectual and learning disabilities (dyslexia, autism, developmental disorders)
- Speech and language disabilities
- Multiple disabilities


Accessibility and Infrastructure Support


A. Campus Accessibility

- Ensuring barrier-free entry and movement within the campus.
- Constructing ramps, handrails, and elevators in all major buildings.
- Making washrooms, classrooms, libraries, and common areas wheelchair accessible.
- Providing designated seating arrangements in classrooms.

B. Assistive Technology and Learning Aids

- Availability of screen readers and speech-to-text software for visually impaired students.
- Provision of braille books, audio materials, and e-resources.
- Accessible computer labs with assistive devices.
- Dedicated spaces for PwD students in the library and study areas.


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Academic Support and Accommodations

A. Teaching and Learning Support

- Faculty training on inclusive teaching methodologies.
- Personalized support for students with learning disabilities.
- Providing lecture notes, slides, and recordings for students with disabilities.
- Use of sign language interpreters or closed captioning in lectures where needed.

B. Examination and Assessment Support

- Extra time in examinations for PwD students as per government guidelines.
- Provision of scribe/writer support for students with visual impairment or writing disabilities.
- Adapted assessment formats, including oral examinations or digital tests where needed.
- Exemption from specific course components if they pose an undue burden due to a disability.

Financial Assistance and Scholarships

- Information dissemination regarding government and institutional scholarships for PwD students.
- Fee concessions or waivers as per government policies.
- Assistance in availing financial support for assistive devices.

Student Support Services

A. Counseling and Mentorship

- Establishment of a dedicated PwD Student Support Cell.
- Regular counseling services for academic, career, and mental health support.
- Peer mentorship programs for PwD students.

B. Residential and Transport Assistance

- Prioritization of PwD students in hostel accommodation.
- Accessible transport facilities within the campus.
- Coordination with local transport authorities for accessible public transport options.

Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities


- Encouragement of PwD students' participation in cultural, literary, and sports activities.
- Modification of sports and recreational activities to accommodate PwD students.
- Organization of exclusive events and activities promoting inclusion.

Awareness and Sensitization Programs

- Regular workshops and training sessions for faculty, staff, and students on disability awareness.
- Inclusion of disability rights and inclusion topics in orientation programs.
- Observance of important disability-related days to foster inclusivity.

Grievance Redressal Mechanism

- Establishment of a PwD Grievance Cell to address complaints regarding accessibility, discrimination, or academic challenges.
- A confidential reporting system for students facing disability-related difficulties.
- Regular monitoring and policy updates based on student feedback.


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Implementation and Monitoring


- The college administration, along with the PwD Student Support Cell, will oversee policy implementation.
- A committee will review the policy annually to ensure effectiveness.
- Continuous feedback collection from PwD students for improvements.

PwD Support Committee Members

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| 1. Prof. R. P. Shukla | Chairperson |
| 2. Prof. G.C. Yadav, | Coordinator |
| 3. Prof. Kumari Sangma | Member |
| 4. Prof. Anesh Singh | Member |
| 5. Prof. C.B. Choubey | Member |
| 6. Mr. Ajit Kumar Pal | Member |
| 7. Prof. B.K. Vishwakarma | Member |
| 8. Mr. Satish Kumar Debey | Member |
| 9. Prof. Binod Kumar Mishra | Member |
| 10. Mr. B.B. Singh | Member (Kishu Care, Foundation) |

Conclusion

Bokaro Steel Mines College remains committed to providing an inclusive educational environment where students with disabilities can thrive academically, socially, and professionally. Through this policy, the college ensures that PwD students receive the necessary support and accommodations to reach their full potential. This policy will be reviewed periodically to incorporate new advancements in accessibility and inclusivity, ensuring the best possible learning experience for all students


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