

#### Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence

## **Disability Support Services**

Shiv Nadar University recognizes the importance of inclusivity, and we actively work towards making the university a welcoming space for all employees and students. We have a <u>Disability Support Policy</u> that provide regular support services for people with disabilities and promote awareness about disabilities while continually enhancing the physical accessibility of our fully residential campus, where employees and students spend a significant portion of their time.

#### Support for Students

Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence has constituted Disability Support Cell (ref. bod/2019-20/632, for compliance of Honorable Supreme Court. Order No.292 of 2006) for the students with disabilities at the University. The main objectives are to make the campus friendly for all students with disabilities and to address any problems or special needs that may arise. A Disability Support Committee (DSC) has been constituted consisting of faculty members, staff members from the University as well as a university counselor.

The DSC is committed to supporting students with conditions identified by the Rights.of. Persons.with.Disabilities.Act?867@2the.Mental.Health.Care.Act.867@2and.UGC.Guidelines. These conditions encompass physical and movement-related difficulties, visual and hearing impairments, medical conditions, specific learning difficulties, and various mental health conditions such as Depression, Bipolar Affective Disorder, Anxiety Disorders, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Personality Disorders, and Psychotic Disorders.

#### Role of the Committee:

- 1. To ensure a disabled friendly environment in the campus, as per the prevailing guidelines.
- 2. To examine students request, consulting with medical practitioner at the institute.
- 3. Easy accessibility of resources to the student, up to the extent possible.
- 4. Protect the confidentiality of students' disability-related information.
- 5. To facilitate the academic and student life journey of a disabled student in the university

## Activities Undertaken by the DSC

- The DSC offers semester-wise support to students from all schools within the University.
- Counseling is available for students who report mental health conditions.



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- Consultations with School Heads are conducted to address students' accommodation needs.
- Consultations with the Examination Department to ensure smooth exam conduct for students with special needs.
- Information about workshops, courses, events, etc., is regularly shared with students.
- Important days are commemorated, and awareness is raised, such as on the International Day of Disabled Persons.
- Recommendation for a special educator to assist with academic planning for students with special needs.

### Nature of Support Undertaken by the DSC

Recommendations will be made on a case-to-case basis for registered students, depending on the student's health condition every semester. Depending on the nature and severity of the disability condition, the specific measures will be decided by the Dean of Academics for academic accommodation and the Dean of Students for other aspects.

#### Sensitization of Disability Rights

- The committee is dedicated to upholding the spirit of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016 (RPWD Act 2016), which emphasizes the individual's right to equality and non-discrimination and regularly organizes awareness sessions about disability rights.
- As defined in the RPWD Act 2016, "discrimination" in the context of disability includes any distinction, exclusion, or restriction based on disability that impairs or nullifies the recognition, enjoyment, or exercise of human rights and fundamental freedoms on an equal basis with others. This encompasses all forms of discrimination and denial of reasonable accommodation [The RWPD Act 2016, Chapter I, Section 2 (h)].
- The act also considers intentionally insulting or intimidating a person with a disability in
  public view as a grave offense. The DSC is committed to discouraging the disclosure of
  the identity or nature of disabilities and any disrespectful comments related to a person's
  disability. If such matters come to the DSC's attention, necessary interventions will be
  made.

### Student Responsibilities

When receiving academic and non-academic accommodations, students with disabilities are expected to fulfill the following responsibilities:

• Providing Relevant Documentation: Students should submit necessary disability documentation to the Chair of the Disability Support Committee (DSC) on time.



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- Informing Concerned Offices for Accommodation Requests: Prospective students should inquire in advance with the admission office and the Dean of Students office to understand available support for students with disabilities. They must initiate conversations with the relevant offices to access services.
- Timely Action: Students need to apply for required accommodations, academic adjustments, or other services in advance. If concerns arise about accommodations, students should promptly communicate with the offices. Notify the DSC immediately in case of any course changes or drops.
- Active Participation: Students are expected to actively engage in discussions with the DSC for accommodations. They should schedule appointments with the DSC as needed and respond promptly to all communications from the DSC.
- Following Up: After the DSC shares information about accommodations, students should follow up with faculty, course instructors, and DSC School representatives.
- Meeting Attendance and Academic Program Standards: Students are expected to maintain the specified percentage of attendance and meet the essential requirements of their academic programs to complete courses successfully.

# Declaration and Agreement by Student

- Both the registration and re-registration forms will be accepted after student agrees on the following points which enable the DSC to make appropriate arrangements for students:
- During registration, students, even if under personal medical care, must have a mandatory consultation with the General Physician at the Health and Wellness Centre.
- Students must submit medical documents to the DSC.
- No recommendations can be made by the DSC without the submission of required medical reports and treatment evidence.
- Students are expected to follow the treatment protocol recommended by Shiv Nadar University's Doctor and/or Counsellor.
- Support is contingent on the DSC's periodic assessment of the student's progress.
- Students are responsible for maintaining regular communication with the Doctor or Counsellor, updating them on their current health condition.
- Support may be revoked if a student engages in malpractice or provides misinformation.