UPES Disability Facility Access Policy

Department/vertical/policy name /V2.0(Version)

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RELEASE VERSIONS

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POLICY ASSURED BY:

Policy Drafted & Submitted by	Mr. Ankur Kumar
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1. Policy Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that all individuals, including faculty, staff, students, and visitors with physical disabilities, have equal access to university facilities, services, and activities. This policy aims to fulfil the legal and ethical requirements of accessibility while promoting an inclusive, diverse, and supportive learning environment at UPES.

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2. Policy Statement

UPES is committed to providing a fully accessible campus for individuals with physical disabilities. The university will ensure that all facilities, services, and programs are accessible and that individuals with disabilities are supported in all aspects of their academic, professional, and campus life.

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3. Objectives

- To provide accessible physical spaces and resources for all members of the UPES community with disabilities.
- To establish clear guidelines for the use of facilities, services, and programs for individuals with disabilities.
- To ensure continuous support and maintenance of accessibility features across campus.
- To comply with national and international accessibility standards and laws.

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4. Definitions

- **Physical Disability:** A condition that substantially limits one or more major life activities, including but not limited to mobility, vision, and hearing impairments.
- **Accessible Facilities:** Facilities that are designed to be usable by individuals with physical disabilities, including ramps, elevators, and modified restrooms.
- **Accessibility Services:** Services provided by UPES to ensure individuals with disabilities have equal access to campus resources, including transportation, academic assistance, and technology.

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5. Main Topic 1: Responsibilities of University Parties

5.1 Accessibility Services

The university's Accessibility Services office is responsible for the planning, implementation, and ongoing assessment of disability accommodations across campus. This includes coordinating with relevant departments to ensure that all physical and digital spaces are accessible.

5.2 Faculty and Staff Support

Faculty and staff are required to support students, staff, and visitors with physical disabilities by facilitating reasonable accommodations such as adjusted teaching methods, exam accommodations, and physical access to their workplace or classrooms.

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6. Main Topic 2: Accessibility Features and Guidelines

6.1 Facilities and Infrastructure

- **Ramps & Elevators:** Ramps and elevators are installed at all entrances to key university buildings to ensure wheelchair accessibility.
- **Restrooms:** All major buildings have gender-neutral accessible restrooms equipped with the required features.
- **Parking:** Designated parking spaces for individuals with physical disabilities are available near all major university entrances.
- **Pathways:** Pathways throughout the campus are wide, clearly marked, and designed to accommodate mobility aids such as wheelchairs and scooters.
- **Signage:** Clear signage is posted throughout the campus to guide individuals with disabilities to accessible routes and facilities.

6.2 Support Services for Persons with Disabilities

- **Transport Services:** University-provided transport is available for students with disabilities who require assistance navigating the campus.
- **Mental Health Support:** Counselling services are available for students with disabilities to help them cope with challenges related to their disability.

7. Additional Information

- **UPES University Free Access Facilities Policy:**
  As part of the university's commitment to inclusivity, UPES offers free access to various facilities, such as water dispensers, academic buildings, library services, and sports facilities for individuals with disabilities.
- **Feedback Mechanism:** Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to provide feedback on the accessibility of campus facilities. A feedback form will be available at each facility and online through the university website.

Review and Amendments

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure that the university meets evolving needs and legislative requirements for accessibility. Amendments will be made as necessary based on feedback from the users.