

RATHINAM

TECHNICAL CAMPUS

7.1.7 The Institution has disabled-friendly, barrier free environment

Policy Document

ABOUT COLLEGE:

Rathinam Technical Campus (RTC) was established in the year 2011. It takes the concept of education to a higher stratum. It's an experience that no other educational institution in the category can offer. It's about life-in all its dimensions: Learning, Working and Living. It pre-empted what education in the future would be because any learning environment that exists in isolation, divorced from the reality of the world outside the campus is bound to be regressive.

RTC is set in a sprawling 70 acre campus that is part of the Rathinam Techzone housing an IT Park and Special Economic Zone (SEZ). An access to the professionals from the TechnoPark for real time experience, and better institution - industry interaction facilitated by the proximity of the SEZ. So the advantages that it offers are indeed enormous. At Rathinam, we provide the right environment for all-round growth, in which academic is just one part of it. RTC is approved by AICTE and affiliated to Anna University, Chennai. It offers 7 UG Courses (AI&DS, CSE, IT, ECE, MECH, BT, BME) and 2 PG Courses (M.E-Biometrics and Cyber Security & M.E-Applied Electronics).

RTC policy for persons with Disabilities

For Annexation of PWDs in Higher Education Institutions and to offer the facilities to Persons with Disabilities under UGC Scheme it was chosen to sketch RTC Policy for them. Likewise a Board is outlined for this purpose where Principal is the Chairperson with additional subcommittees.

About this policy few meetings have also been held and final drafting is completed. The last meeting was held under the Principal and so forth it the drafts will be put forward for the approval of management council.

Policy for Persons with Disabilities

Right of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 prohibits discrimination against individuals with physical and mental disabilities. RTC is against all kinds of discriminations on any grounds including disability.

RTC intend to advance a comprehensive and inclusive teaching and learning environment in which incapacitated students, or any employees are not distraught or treated unfavourably. The university aims to design its programs, administrations, and activities accessible to the students. All the authorities of the university are striving in order to forward a helping hand towards the differently abled so as to make sure about the Benefits of grounds programs, administrations, and activities. These guidelines apply to all the College Faculty and staff.

Objectives of the Policy

1. To create Inclusive Culture to avoid discrimination, exploitation and exclusion of Disable Students and Staff from all spheres of work and education.
2. To create suitable regulatory mechanism for effective delivery of services to Disable Students and Staff of affiliated colleges, recognized institutions and research centers.
3. To ensure implementation of all legislations with respect to persons with disabilities.
4. To provide accessible and inclusive education at affiliated colleges, recognized institutions and research centers
5. To ensure full participation of persons with disabilities and to provide them the equal opportunities for development.
6. To provide necessary budget allocation to achieve above objectives.

The terms used in the policy have meaning mentioned in chapter I of the rights of the persons with disability Act 2016.

• Disability

Disability is a term that includes motor and sensory limitations (e.g., mobility, vision, or hearing impairments). It also includes disabilities resulting from chronic illnesses and syndrome, invisible disabilities, such as psychological and emotional disorders, learning disabilities, heart disease, diabetes, asthma, arthritis, epilepsy, Acquired Brain Injuries (ABI), and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) are also included in the term disability. Many disabilities vary in degree and type of limitation; therefore, accommodations must also vary and should be tailored to the needs of the individual.

• Qualified Person with Disability

The expression "qualified individual with a disability" alludes to a person with a disability who is qualified to participate in any given university program or activity.

1. With regard to enrolment, a certified individual with a disability must fulfil the scholastic guidelines required for affirmation and meet the scholarly necessities set up for any given course, degree, or certificate program.
2. With respect to employment, training, work assignments, and promotion, a qualified individual with a disability must be able to perform the minimum essential functions of the job.
3. However relaxation shall be allowed as per the Government rules.

Governing bodies:

RTC will constitute a specialized committee for people with disabilities which will be responsible in preparing, executing and amending policy and guidelines for persons with disabilities.

The committee will consist of minimum eight members selected from faculty from the College, specialist in the field and people with disabilities. All committee members shall be appointed by the Principal. The committee shall meet quarterly in a year to review the concerned activities.

The major functions of expert committee for persons with disabilities include:

- A. To address all disability related issues in the College.
- B. To ensure overall accessibility for people with disability in the entire College system including departments.
- C. To guide activities of the enabling units or resource centre by providing expert suggestions.
- D. To determine major grievances pertaining to any matter of persons with disabilities. If it is not resolved, it should be sent to the dignitaries.

Enabling Units for persons with disabilities:

RTC has established resource centre for comprehensive education for people with disabilities in the College campus. This centre will be enabling Unit for persons with disabilities. The enabling unit will be integrated by a coordinator who will be nominated by the Principal. A counsellor-cum-placement officer shall be appointed for the unit amongst the faculty members of the Campus. Considering the various functions and activities of the unit, required supporting staff shall be provided by College. The unit shall work in the coordination with expert committee for persons with disabilities, for implementation of university policy for persons with disabilities.

The major functions of the resource centre or Enabling Unit will be as follows:

- Providing counselling for the students with disabilities on the types of courses they can study at the higher education.
- Ensuring the admission of as many students with disabilities as possible through the open quota.
- Collection of orders dealing with fee concessions, examination procedures, reservation policies, etc., referring to persons with disabilities as per the government policies from time to time.
- Assessing the educational needs of persons with disabilities enrolled in the higher education.
- Conducting awareness programs for teachers about the approaches to teaching, evaluation procedures, etc, which they should adapt in the case of students with disability.
- Providing support to the students with disability and assist them in getting appropriate employment after their studies.
- Conducting regular Remedial Coaching Classes for persons with disabilities.

- **Accessibility policy:**

Providing access means making all the services, activities and the benefits thereof, fully available to qualified people with disabilities. The College should provide various provisions in creating a disabled friendly campus. The management and faculty members should ensure appropriate/reasonable accommodations for each person with a disability, and be willing to resolve access problems. The campus should be barrier free and accessible for persons with differently able.

The following principles of accessibility will be strictly observed:

- All UG and PG programs and activities must be accessible.
- To provide accessible textbooks and study material to all students with disabilities.
- To ensure the awareness programmes for all the teachers and non-teaching staff regarding the issues of accessibility.
- To ensure that web services are compliant to National and international accessibility standards and regulations such as Web content Accessibility Guidelines WCAG with appropriate version and Government of India Guidelines for Web accessibility.

The College will ensure the representation of all the types of disabilities listed in Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2016 and as per government regulations from time to time.

Exam policy:

RTC will make reasonable changes in the educational plan and assessment framework to meet the particular needs of students with disabilities. Sensible convenience will be made to meet the necessities of the considerable number of Students with disabilities. The guidelines and regulations has been issued by the examination department for use scribe in exams.

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ACCESSIBILITY AND ACCESS AUDIT FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Facilities available for Employee and students

- Ramps and Toilets
- Battery Car is provided for teacher and staff inside the campus. Half hour concession in regular working hours is facilitated to disabled teaching and non-teaching staff.
- Facilities are provided time to time as per government rules.
- Our website is accessible for visually impaired students.
- Disability sensitization sessions are part of the students and Employee induction programme.

- Staff are trained to assist persons with disabilities, including persons with learning disabilities
- Audio Books

Access Audit for Persons with Disabilities

The audit process is well planned, successful and fruitful exercise. The process involves the participation of many people. Access audit has been done through local body of Helpers of Handicapped. The Principal had appointed committee for Access Audit for barrier free environment of infrastructure development under UGC Scheme for Persons with Disabilities.