# ETHIRAJ COLLEGE FOR WOMEN (Autonomous)

Chennai - 600 008

Affiliated to the University of Madras College with Potential for Excellence Re-accredited with A+ Grade by NAAC



7.1.7 **Inclusive Policy** 

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## **INCLUSIVITY POLICY**

Ethiraj College for Women seeks to promote a teaching and learning environment free of bias for both students and faculty coming from diverse backgrounds and with differing abilities.

With an intention to recognise and accommodate the needs of Persons with Disabilities and appreciating their right to full and equal participation in the academic and non-academic environment of the college, the following steps have been taken:

## **Barrier Free Environment:**

The college is equipped with ramps in every building and disabled friendly toilets on every floor. No area in the campus is out of bounds for the persons with disability and they have equal access to all spaces be it classrooms, labs, seminar halls or the library.

#### **Admission Fee Exemption:**

In accordance with the regulations of the Government of Tamil Nadu, students belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes are exempted from paying any application fee. The college takes particular care to comply with the reservation requirements promulgated by the Government from time to time.

#### **Inclusive Campus Living:**

Students who are differently-abled are given priority in hostel accommodation and they are allotted ground floor rooms. The college Library has a dedicated Braille section and also has a network center with JAWS software for their use. They are also encouraged to use Braille slates and recording devices during lectures.

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Mobility Infrastructure: Wheelchairs are provided at both campuses for those with impaired mobility along with the availability of lifts and ramps in all buildings. Differently-abled students are permitted to choose their seating arrangements in the classroom as per their requests. Students with locomotors disability are permitted to bring an assistant to the classroom to help them with their tasks.

## **Curriculum Development and Implementation:**

Students who have been certified with Learning Disabilities are exempted from learning the Part I and II languages. Prior approval has to be obtained from the University for the same.

## **Accessible Assessment and Evaluation:**

## Students with Benchmark Disabilities:

Students with Benchmark Disabilities like blindness, cerebral palsy and locomotor disability are permitted to use scribes during examinations and provided with compensatory time while taking up examinations.

<u>Visually challenged students</u> are given complete exemption in payment of examination fees according to the government directives. They are provided with scribes during examinations and are given compensatory time of twenty minutes extra for every hour of exam. Provisions are made to arrange for scribes when the PWD is not able to do so and they are permitted to meet the scribe before the exam to familiarize themselves with each other. While conducting examinations, arrangements are made for the PWD to write exams on the ground floor itself.

<u>Learning Disability:</u> With prior permission from the University, students with learning disabilities are given exemptions from writing language papers (Part I and II) and also the provision to overlook spelling mistakes. They are also given compensatory time as per the rules while taking up the examinations.

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<u>Hearing Imparied and Speech Impaired</u>: With prior permission from the University, the students with Hearing impairment and speech disabilities are permitted the use of scribes and compensatory time.

<u>Transgender</u>: Persons identifying as transgender are provided quotas at the time of admission as per government norms and the promotion of a safe space for such students is ensured throughout their study.

Faculty members are recruited with due attention being paid to Persons With Disabilities and the college is proud of their services to the student community.

PRINCIPAL
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