

## **Barrier-Free Environment in the College**

Dr. Vithalrao Vikhe Patil Foundation's College of Nursing, Ahilyanagar, is dedicated to creating an accessible, inclusive, and barrier-free environment that promotes equal participation for differently abled (Divyangjan) students, faculty, staff, patients, and visitors. The institution believes that accessibility is essential to quality education and healthcare and therefore provides disability-friendly infrastructure, academic support, healthcare services, and welfare facilities to ensure equal opportunities for all



## **Admission and Academic Support**

The institution is committed to providing equal educational opportunities to persons with disabilities (Divyangjan) by following the reservation policies and admission guidelines prescribed by the Government of India and the respective regulatory authorities. Total five percent seats in all the programmes are reserved for persons with disabilities according to the guidelines given by INC and AICTE/DTE/MNC. Eligible candidates are considered for admission as per the applicable reservation norms, ensuring a fair, transparent, and inclusive admission process. The college also provides necessary academic support and reasonable accommodations to facilitate their successful learning experience. Comfortable and reserved seating arrangements in classrooms, seminar halls, and auditoriums and easy accessibility to lecture halls, laboratories, libraries, and examination centers are provided

## **Examination Policy**

The examination section will follow the guidelines by the university of Mumbai is giving extra time or allotting Scribes. The Institute shall make suitable arrangements for Divyangjan Students to give the examination and statutory regulatory bodies. Eligible students are provided with facilities such as compensatory time, scribes, or other reasonable accommodations, wherever applicable. The Examination Cell makes suitable arrangements to ensure that students can appear for examinations in an accessible, comfortable, and barrier-free environment without discrimination.

## **Commitment to Accessibility for Divyangjan**

### ***Ramp***

The institution has provided ramps with handrails at the entrances of college, administrative, hospital, and hostel buildings to ensure safe and convenient access for wheelchair users and individuals with mobility challenges. Wide corridors and accessible pathways to facilitate wheelchair mobility.

## ***Lift***

Elevator facilities are available in college, hospital and administrative blocks enabling easy and independent movement between floors for differently abled students, staff, patients, and visitors.

## ***Divyangjan-Friendly Washrooms***

Accessible washrooms equipped with western-style toilets, grab bars, and adequate space for wheelchair movement are available at key locations on the campus, ensuring comfort, safety, and dignity. Regular maintenance to ensure hygiene and usability.

## ***Signage***

The campus is equipped with clear directional signage and identification boards to assist in easy navigation. Signage are strategically placed to help students, patients, staff, and visitors access various facilities without difficulty. Signage with reserved parking spaces for Divyangjan and senior citizens near important facilities. Accessible entry and exit points across the campus

## ***Screen Reading Software and Audiometry Device***

The institution provides assistive technologies such as screen reading software to support visually impaired users in accessing digital learning resources. Directional markings and colour-coded pathways for enhanced navigation, particularly for visually impaired individuals. Audiometry devices are available to facilitate hearing assessment and support services for individuals with hearing impairments.

## ***Human Assistance***

Faculty members, administrative staff, hospital personnel, wardens, and support staff provide timely assistance to differently abled students, patients, and visitors whenever required. The institution is committed to ensuring a supportive, respectful, and inclusive environment that promotes independence and equal participation.

## **Healthcare Support Services for Divyangjan**

The attached teaching hospital is committed to providing accessible, compassionate, and patient-centered healthcare services for differently abled (Divyangjan) individuals. To ensure equitable access to healthcare, priority is given during registration, consultation, diagnostic investigations, admission, and treatment. The hospital provides wheelchairs and stretchers to facilitate safe patient transportation, along with dedicated waiting areas and accessible seating arrangements. Trained healthcare professionals, support staff, and medical social workers offer

guidance and assistance throughout the patient's hospital visit, ensuring comfort, dignity, and quality care for all.

## Rehabilitation and Support Services

The institution provides comprehensive rehabilitation and support services to promote the health, independence, and well-being of differently abled (Divyangjan) individuals. Through collaboration with the District Disability Rehabilitation Centre (DDRC) and other healthcare agencies, the college facilitates physiotherapy, rehabilitation, counselling, and referral services. Guidance is also provided for disability certification and access to appropriate healthcare resources. In addition, the institution conducts community outreach programmes to create awareness about disability, rehabilitation, and inclusive healthcare, thereby fostering social inclusion and improving the quality of life of persons with disabilities.

## Continuous Improvement

The institution regularly reviews and upgrades its infrastructure and support services to meet accessibility standards and enhance the overall campus experience. The institution ensures that emergency exits, evacuation routes, and safety measures are accessible to everyone. Faculty and staff are encouraged to provide necessary assistance during emergencies, promoting a secure environment for all. Feedback from students and stakeholders is considered to further strengthen the barrier-free environment and ensure continuous improvement in accessibility.

## Ramp and Lift in the College



**Disabled friendly Toilets**



**Signage**



*Human assistance*



*Assistive technology and facilities for differently abled*

