



St. John's Medical College

(A Unit of CBCI Society for Medical Education)

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CIRCULAR

Subject: Constitution of Enabling Unit for Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD) at St. John's Medical College

In accordance with the provisions of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016, and the directions of the National Medical Commission regarding the constitution of Enabling Units for Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD), St. John's Medical College hereby constitutes an **Enabling Unit for Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD)** with immediate effect.

The Enabling Unit shall serve as the institutional focal point for promoting accessibility, inclusion, equal opportunity, and reasonable accommodation for students with disabilities within the college and teaching hospital.

Objectives

1. To ensure an inclusive, barrier-free, and supportive learning environment for students with disabilities.
2. To facilitate access to reasonable accommodation in academic, clinical, examination, and extracurricular activities.
3. To uphold the rights and dignity of students with disabilities in accordance with the RPwD Act, 2016.

Composition of the Enabling Unit

The Enabling Unit shall comprise the following members:

Sl No	Name	Designation	Role in Enabling Unit
1.	Dr. George A. D'Souza	Dean, St John's Medical College	Chairperson
2.	Dr. Deepthi N Shanbhag	Professor, Dept. of Community Health	Coordinator/ Nodal Officer
3.	Dr. P S Varghese	Chief of Medical Services	Member
4.	Dr. Binu T. Kurian	Professor, Dept of Orthopedics Head, Unit of Childhood Disability	Member
5.	Dr. Jaya Das	Professor and Head Dept. of PMR	Member
6.	Dr. Yamini V. R. Priya	Professor and Head Dept. of Ophthalmology	Member
7.	Dr. Ramesh A.	Professor and Head Dept. of ENT	Member
8.	Mr. Himanth Sunkara	Hostel Manager	Member
9.	Ms. Megha Mohan	Student Counsellor	Member

Designated Single Point of Contact (Nodal Officer)

Name: Dr. Deepthi N Shanbhag

Designation: Professor, Dept of Community Health

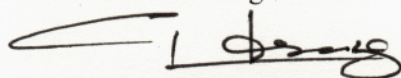
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Functions of the Enabling Unit

The Enabling Unit shall:

1. **Facilitate Reasonable Accommodation**
 - Coordinate academic, clinical, examination, and campus accommodation based on individual needs.
 - Recommend assistive devices, accessible learning materials, and support services.
2. **Provide Student Support**
 - Receive and address requests from students regarding disability-related accommodation.
 - Offer guidance on institutional support mechanisms and referral services.
3. **Promote Accessibility**
 - Identify barriers in physical infrastructure, teaching-learning processes, digital platforms, and communication systems.
 - Recommend measures to improve accessibility and universal design.
4. **Coordinate with Relevant Authorities**
 - Liaise with departments, faculty, hospital administration, examination section, and external authorities to ensure timely implementation of accommodations.
 - Facilitate assessment and certification processes when required.
5. **Awareness and Sensitization**
 - Conduct orientation programmes and awareness initiatives for students, faculty, and staff on disability inclusion.
 - Promote a culture of respect, equity, and non-discrimination.
6. **Grievance Redressal**
 - Receive and address concerns relating to accessibility, discrimination, or denial of reasonable accommodation.
 - Recommend corrective measures to the institutional authorities.
7. **Record Maintenance and Monitoring**
 - Maintain confidential records of requests received, accommodation provided, and actions taken.
 - Submit periodic reports to the Dean regarding activities and progress.
8. **Information Dissemination**
 - Publicize the role, services, and contact details of the Enabling Unit through the college website, student handbook, and notice boards.
9. **Support Transition to Clinical Training and Internship**
 - Facilitate accessible clinical postings, skills training, and internship-related accommodations in accordance with regulatory guidelines.
10. **Policy Development**
 - Advise the institution on disability-inclusive policies, procedures, and practices consistent with the RPwD Act, 2016 and NMC directives.

All departments, faculty, and administrative units are requested to extend full cooperation to the Enabling Unit in fulfilling its mandate.



Dr. George A. D'Souza, MD, DNB

Dean

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