Students with disabilities or special needs information package

Klaipeda University

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KU INFORMATION PACKAGE

Klaipeda University (KU) aims at fostering a disability friendly and inclusive environment.

KU encourages students with a disability to express their needs and let us know about them as early as possible. Through reciprocal communication we will put efforts to ensure access to studies and make reasonable accommodations for student's full, effective and equal participation in the study process.

Students with disabilities are provided with continuous support during their studies, with the aim of achieving more efficient and successful learning by means of:

- individualization of the study process to meet the needs arising from a disability;

- improving the physical accessibility of the University campus;

- providing assistive technologies, allowing to adjust the study process to individual needs;

- counselling students and lecturers.

The administration, professors, and students of the University work together to ensure that students with disabilities have a comfortable experience at the University. All students with disabilities may design individual plan of studies. Individual accommodations may include: modification of the deadlines or the type of assignments/exam; providing teaching materials in an accessible format, etc.

KU offers services for students with special needs:

Software

- *Braille Music Translator GOODFEEL.* Software package consists of 3 programs: translation of music scores in electronic medium into Braille and printing, program Sharp Eye Reader for scanning and recognizing music scores and music editor Lime Aloud 9.
- *Dolphin - EasyConverter, EasyReader.* Converts regular text documents to alternative formats (Mp3, audio, Braille, digital book format DAISY).
- *Super Nova Magnifier 13.3.* Allows to magnify all the information or its parts on the screen, as well as pictures, icons, etc.
- *JAWS 14 for Windows.* Analyses information on the screen and transmits it to speech synthesizer, which converts text into sound.
- *Win Talker Voice 1.6.* Transforms information on computer screen to user in voice in Lithuanian.

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Equipment

- Image magnifier *TOPAZ XL HD V 246 HL*. Allows to magnify the text, adjust its brightness, contrast, letter and background color modes.
- Alternative computer mice *Traxsys Roller Joystick II* for users with motor disorders.
- Keyboards. Bright color keyboards for the visually impaired.
- *The SARA CE* (Scanning and Reading Appliance, Camera Edition) is the next-generation self-contained scanning and reading appliance for the blind and those with poor vision.
- Braille printer *VP Columbia.* Regular text documents are printed in convex Braille writing and produce tactile diagrams (charts, schedules, etc.).

Databases

Subscribed databases either have an integrated voice reading service (*Taylor and Francis*) or support audio and text enhancement software (*Springer, Wiley Online LibraryEBSCO, Sage, ScienceDirect*).

Students who have official approved diagnosis of mental, physical, intellectual or other cognitive disabilities which cause 45 percent or lower working capacity are eligible to receive social grant from The State Studies Foundation.

Students with disabilities may participate in the competition for Erasmus+ studies or internships abroad and they can also get additional grants, which would cover all expenses that are related to disability or special needs during Erasmus+ studies or internship.

KU provides accommodation for the students with disability in the dormitory in a priority manner. On the first floor of the dormitory (Universiteto alėja 12) 4 rooms are adapted for the needs of people with disabilities.

KU appointed a *disability specialist* who is responsible for the development and planning of the disability issues policy and for the implementation of the plan at the University.