🎓 **PRACTICAL GUIDE FOR STUDENTS WITH SPECIFIC NEEDS**

👋 **Dear students,**

we would like to create conditions that enable students with specific needs to pursue their studies at the University of Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy in Košice as successfully as possible and without unnecessary obstacles.

If you have health-related issues or limitations that may affect your studies, you can apply for appropriate support. Its aim is to help you manage your studies under conditions that take your individual needs into account.

💡 **However, support doesn't mean lowering the academic standards.** All students have to meet the same study outcomes and professional requirements. Supporting measures create fair conditions enabling you to demonstrate your knowledge and skills in a way which takes into account your individual needs.

🤝 We believe that successful studies are built on cooperation, open communication and mutual respect.

👤 **Are you a student with specific needs?**

As a student with specific needs is considered a student with:

- sensory, physical or multiple disabilities,
- chronic disease,
- health impairment,
- mental illness,
- learning disabilities,
- autism or other pervasive developmental disorders.

Many students with specific needs have successfully completed their university studies and have subsequently found employment in their profession. Setting up support early can significantly help you cope with your studies.

📚 **What's good to know before you start your studies?**

We recommend you the following:

- get to know the conditions of the study programme,
- consider the difficulty of practical teaching and professional practice,
- contact the administrator or the coordinator for students with specific needs,
- inform the university about your needs well in advance.

💡 It's helpful if you know your specific needs, if you know how to work with technical aids and equipment and if you are able to name the form of support that can help you.

🎓 At the university, we see you primarily as a student with potential, capabilities, and professional ambitions. Support measures serve to remove obstacles, not to limit your opportunities for development.

📝 How to get the support?

1. Contact the administrator for students with specific needs

The administrator for students with specific needs will provide you with information about the offered support and will advise you on the next steps.

The sooner the university is aware of your specific needs, the easier it will be to establish the suitable conditions.

🤝 **A personal meeting is important to better understand your situation and to set up the support according to your specific needs. We recommend you to schedule the meeting by email in advance.**

2. 📄 Prepare the necessary documentation

Together with the application form, you're required to submit the following:

- medical report or medical certificate (not older than 3 months),
- or standpoint of a psychologist, a special pedagogue, a speech therapist or another specialist.

3. 📝 Submit your application

After registration to study, deliver to the administrator for students with specific needs the following:

- application for registration in the Evidence of students with specific needs,
- consent to the assessment of specific needs.

4. 💬 Together, we will assess your special needs

Administrator for students with specific needs will review your situation with you, assess the documentation and propose appropriate support measures.

5. ✅ We will set up the support

Support measures are determined on an individual basis, according to your specific needs, the university's possibilities and mutual discussion.

❓ What support services can you use?

Type of support is individual. It can be the following:

- prolongation of time required to complete an exam,
- appropriate adjustment of exam's form,
- individual schedule of performance of study duties,
- consultations,
- provision of study materials,
- usage of specific medical equipment,

- appropriate adjustment of state examination's conditions,
- priority accommodation,
- borrowing of study literature for extended time.

🌿 What can you expect from us and what we expect from you?

You may expect from us:

- respectful and non-discriminatory approach,
- discreet processing of personal data,
- respecting your individual needs,
- searching for the appropriate adjustments,
- information about the support possibilities,
- effort to remove unnecessary barriers in study.

We expect from you:

- early communication regarding your specific needs,
- submission of necessary documentation,
- active cooperation with the administrator and the coordinator for student with specific needs and teachers,
- following deadlines and fulfilling study requirements,
- fulfilling study requirements of the study programme,
- early announcement of barriers,
- responsible usage of support measures,
- meeting set appointments,
- cooperation in the implementation of the support,
- respecting the university's rules.

⚖️ What are the limits of support?

The support services help to create appropriate conditions for study, but they don't change the content or the requirements. The university can't guarantee the following:

- automatic approval of every request,
- exemption from study obligations,
- lowering of professional requirements,
- modifications that would make it impossible to achieve the required competencies of graduates.

🤝 Support works best when we work together

University studies are based on student's independence and personal responsibility. The university provides the support and the appropriate conditions; however, academic success depends on the student's active approach.

Our goal is to help you to develop your potential and successfully complete your studies.

We believe that with open communication, mutual respect, and appropriate support, every student can fully develop their abilities and professional competencies.

❓ **Do you need help?**

If you're unsure about the procedure or you need further assistance, please contact the administrator or the coordinator for students with specific needs.

Timely communication helps to prevent complications and allows for suitable study conditions to be established in advance.

📞 **Contacts for students studying in English language:**

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