



TERMEZ STATE UNIVERSITY

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION AND ACCESSIBILITY



TERMEZ 2025

Infrastructure, Social Support, and Development Priorities for Students with Disabilities (2025–2027)

Introduction

TerSU upholds the principle of equality, inclusiveness, and accessibility for all members of its academic community. Guided by national legislation on the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 4 – Quality Education and SDG 10 – Reduced Inequalities), the University has made the creation of a barrier-free, supportive, and inclusive learning environment one of its top priorities for the period 2025–2027.

The university administration recognizes that education must be accessible to everyone, regardless of physical ability or special needs. Therefore, TerSU's **2025–2027 Development Strategy** specifically identifies the **modernization of campus infrastructure for persons with disabilities, individuals with special needs, and maternity care** as one of the most important strategic goals.

Through this strategic vision, TerSU aims to ensure that every student can study, live, and participate fully in academic and social life without barriers.

1. Infrastructure and Accessibility Facilities

1.1. Campus Accessibility

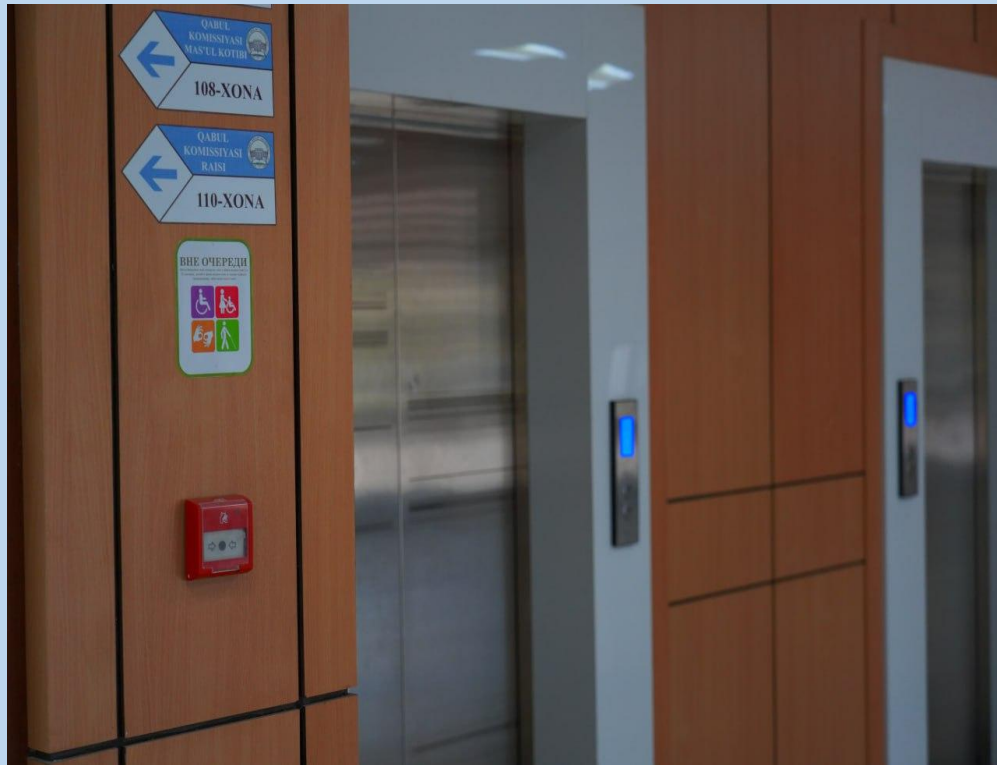
TerSU has undertaken major infrastructure projects to make its academic and residential buildings accessible for students with disabilities. Each campus area has been carefully redesigned to ensure ease of movement and comfort for all.

The following key facilities have been introduced and upgraded:

Ramps and pathways – All main buildings, lecture halls, and administrative offices are equipped with ramps and smooth pathways that meet accessibility standards, allowing wheelchair users to move freely and independently.



Special elevators – Modern elevators designed for disabled individuals have been installed in multi-storey academic and residential buildings, ensuring equal access to classrooms, laboratories, and administrative departments.



Accessible restrooms and washrooms – Every academic block and student dormitory now includes restrooms and shower areas specifically equipped for students with physical disabilities.



Dedicated dormitory spaces – In each of the **seven student dormitories**, special rooms have been allocated and fully furnished for students with disabilities. These rooms are located on easily accessible

floors and equipped with adaptive furniture, emergency call buttons, and medical support systems.



Accessible study materials – The university provides educational resources in accessible formats, including large-print textbooks, electronic versions of study materials, and assistive technologies that support independent learning.

1.2. Universal Design and Campus Planning

All new construction and renovation projects at TerSU follow **universal design principles**, ensuring inclusivity in architecture and space organization. The design focuses on safety, comfort, and independence for students with physical and sensory impairments. The university's long-term plan also includes creating **tactile pathways**, **audio guidance systems**, and **accessible computer labs** equipped with assistive software.

These developments reflect TerSU's strong commitment to equality, dignity, and human rights for all learners.

2. Social Support and Financial Assistance

2.1. Financial Inclusion and Scholarships

As of **2024**, more than **300 students with disabilities** are enrolled at TerSU across various faculties. The University ensures that these students receive

comprehensive financial and social support to remove economic barriers to education.

In 2024, the University allocated approximately **USD 150,000** from its internal budget to support students with disabilities. This financial assistance covers educational expenses, daily living needs, and participation in cultural and academic events.

Furthermore, **all tuition fees for students with disabilities are fully covered by the University**, ensuring that no student is excluded from higher education due to financial hardship. Each student also receives a **monthly stipend of USD 70** as additional support, along with **free accommodation** in university dormitories.

2.2. Inclusive Welfare Measures

TerSU provides medical, psychological, and social assistance services on campus. Students with disabilities receive personalized care, including health monitoring, access to medical facilities, and psychological counseling. The University cooperates with local healthcare institutions to provide rehabilitation and physical therapy services when required.

The University also prioritizes the inclusion of students with disabilities in all areas of campus life — from student governance and volunteering to sports and cultural activities. Annual campus events include competitions, exhibitions, and performances where students with disabilities actively participate and showcase their talents.



3. Community and Cultural Inclusion

3.1. International Day of Persons with Disabilities

Every year, on **December 3 – the International Day of Persons with Disabilities**, TerSU organizes a large-scale event dedicated to celebrating the achievements and contributions of its disabled students. During this event, students participate in cultural performances, exhibitions, and social gatherings that promote inclusion and awareness.



On this occasion, all students with disabilities receive **special gifts and financial bonuses** as a gesture of recognition and encouragement. The celebration not only raises public awareness but also fosters a sense of belonging and pride among students, staff, and the wider community.

3.2. Volunteering and Peer Support

To ensure continuous assistance and emotional support, TerSU has established a **Volunteer Support Group for Students with Disabilities**. This group includes student volunteers who help their peers with daily campus activities such as navigating buildings, accessing libraries, attending classes, and participating in social events.

These volunteers receive special training to understand accessibility needs and provide respectful, effective assistance. Their work promotes empathy, collaboration, and a strong sense of social responsibility within the student body.

3.3. Youth Center and Counseling Services

TerSU's **Youth Center**, located at the heart of the campus, also plays a vital role in supporting students with disabilities. It provides information, guidance, and counseling on academic adaptation, social engagement, and employment opportunities after graduation. The center maintains partnerships with NGOs and government agencies that specialize in disability support, thereby connecting students with external resources and career pathways.



4. Strategic Development and Future Goals (2025–2027)

The University's **Development Strategy for 2025–2027** emphasizes accessibility and inclusion as one of its major institutional priorities. This strategy integrates inclusive education principles into every aspect of campus development, academic reform, and community engagement.

Key Strategic Objectives Include:

Expanding and modernizing physical infrastructure to ensure full accessibility across all faculties, dormitories, and service areas;

Increasing investment in assistive learning technologies and digital accessibility tools;

Establishing a **Center for Inclusive Education and Social Adaptation** to coordinate academic and social support;

Strengthening collaboration with NGOs and international organizations specializing in inclusive education;

Enhancing professional development for faculty and staff on inclusive teaching methods and disability awareness;

Organizing annual inclusion-themed conferences and workshops to promote best practices and exchange experiences.

Through these initiatives, TerSU seeks to become a **regional model of inclusive higher education** that not only supports students with disabilities but also inspires other universities in Uzbekistan and Central Asia to adopt similar measures.

5. Institutional Philosophy and Broader Impact

TerSU's inclusive education framework reflects a broader understanding that diversity enriches the academic environment. The University firmly believes that students with disabilities bring unique perspectives, creativity, and resilience that strengthen the learning community.

By investing in accessibility, TerSU ensures equal opportunities for all — not as a matter of charity, but as a matter of **human rights, dignity, and social justice**. This vision is consistent with Uzbekistan's national priorities, particularly those outlined in the **Strategy for the Development of Higher Education** and the **Law on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2020)**.

TerSU's inclusive initiatives contribute directly to achieving multiple Sustainable Development Goals, including:

SDG 4 (Quality Education) – Ensuring inclusive and equitable education for all;

SDG 5 (Gender Equality) – Supporting women and mothers with special needs on campus;

SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) – Empowering people with disabilities to participate fully in society; and

SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) – Promoting accessibility in urban and educational spaces.

Conclusion

TerSU continues to make significant progress toward becoming a fully inclusive and accessible academic institution. With more than **300 students with**

disabilities enrolled, the University stands as a leading example of how infrastructure, social policy, and educational philosophy can work together to create genuine equality.

The University's investments — amounting to **USD 150,000 in 2024 alone** — demonstrate its long-term commitment to the welfare of its students. By providing free education, monthly stipends, accessible facilities, and a strong support network, TerSU not only removes barriers but also builds a culture of respect, inclusion, and opportunity.

As outlined in its **2025–2027 Development Strategy**, TerSU will continue to expand its inclusive infrastructure, strengthen community partnerships, and ensure that every student — regardless of ability — can thrive academically, socially, and personally.

Through these sustained efforts, TerSU reaffirms its role as a **regional leader in inclusive higher education** and a proud contributor to the national and global movement for equality and sustainable development.

Signed by the Rector:
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