

## **ACCESSIBILITY IMPLEMENTATION POLICY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF LODZ**

In accordance with the currently applicable legal provisions, including mainly [the Convention UN of 13 December 2006 on the rights of persons with disabilities](#) (Article 9) and [the Act on ensuring accessibility for people with special needs of July 19, 2019](#), public entities, including universities, are obliged to provide people with special needs, including disabilities, equal access to all spheres of social life, including education.

This document aims to define the University of Lodz's policy on accessibility by specifying standards for implementing this idea in three areas:

- 1) architectural;
- 2) information and communication;
- 3) digital.

The effect is to be to ensure equal access to education and other forms of activities carried out at the University of Lodz.

The idea of equality is the overarching feature of the development of the University of Lodz, expressed in the University [Strategy](#) for 2021-2030.

### **§ 1**

#### **The scope of the accessibility policy at the University of Lodz**

1. All University of Lodz employees are required to implement accessibility.
2. The principles of accessibility are applied at the University of Lodz in all areas of activity:
  - 1) recruitment process;
  - 2) teaching and learning process;
  - 3) scientific research;
  - 4) cooperation and influencing the environment;
  - 5) integration and development of the academic community.
3. The accessibility policy at the University of Lodz covers all aspects of accessibility, i.e. architecture, infrastructure, digital media, teaching and other services.
4. The Rector approves the standards in all aspects of accessibility and issues them in the form of a regulation.

5. The Rector obliges all units/all employees to apply the accessibility principles applicable under the Act on ensuring accessibility for persons with special needs and the guidelines contained in this document.

## **§ 2**

### **University of Lodz policy on architectural accessibility**

1. The implementation of the architectural accessibility policy is carried out through:
  - 1) development of standards in the field of architectural accessibility;
  - 2) designing new buildings in accordance with design principles universal;
  - 3) renovation of buildings in accordance with design principles universal;
  - 4) designing and renovating buildings with particular consideration of the needs and capabilities of people with various disabilities;
  - 5) modifying, to the extent possible, the current infrastructure of the University in order to improving architectural accessibility;
  - 6) providing people with disabilities with appropriate equipment, in accordance with applicable regulations and good practices.

## **§ 3**

### **University of Lodz Digital Accessibility Policy**

1. The digital accessibility policy is implemented through:
  - 1) development of standards in the field of digital accessibility;
  - 2) designing and maintaining websites that are up to date digital accessibility principles;
  - 3) designing and using documents that comply with current digital accessibility principles;
  - 4) designing and using teaching materials in accordance with with current digital accessibility rules;
  - 5) gradual updating of existing materials and digital content to current digital accessibility standards;

- 6) continuous training of employees in the field of digital accessibility, including the creation of accessible documents, in accordance with the principles set out in the University's [Website Regulations](#) in force at the University Lodz.

## **§ 4**

### **University of Lodz policy on information and communication accessibility**

The implementation of the information and communication accessibility policy is carried out through:

- 1) development of standards in the area of information and communication accessibility;
- 2) enabling, where possible, remote (online) communication;
- 3) providing a remote sign language interpreter service (PJM);
- 4) taking into account the needs and capabilities of various recipients in the field of communication;
- 5) providing information, where possible and appropriate, in plain language;
- 6) providing communication at the request of a person with special needs in the form specified in this application.

## **§ 5**

### **Accessibility Coordinator**

1. The University of Lodz has appointed a coordinator for accessibility and a University Accessibility Team ([Regulation No. 173 of the Rector of the University of Lodz of July 5, 2021](#)).
2. The tasks of the coordinator and the Team referred to in paragraph 1 include carrying out and monitoring tasks related to ensuring accessibility for people with special needs in the areas of accessibility: architectural, digital and information and communication, as well as preparing accessibility declarations at the University of Lodz.
3. The structure of the Accessibility Team is presented in the organizational charts specified in the annex to [Regulation No. 173 of the Rector of the University of Lodz](#) of 5 July 2021.
4. The Accessibility Coordinator cooperates with the Academic Support Centre of the

University of Lodz

(next: "ACW UL").

5. ACW UL maintains a register of accessibility requests. Applications are accepted at the following e-mail address: [dostepnosc@uni.lodz.pl](mailto:dostepnosc@uni.lodz.pl)
6. Application forms are available on the UL website at the following links:  
links:
  - 1) [template of the application for ensuring architectural accessibility or communication and information;](#)
  - 2) [digitalaccessibility application form.](#)

## **§ 6**

### **Support policy for students and doctoral students**

The support policy for students and doctoral students at the University of Lodz is implemented through:

- 1) creating conditions for people with special needs, including disabilities, to fully participate in the process of admission to the University for the purpose of education and scientific activity;
- 2) the activities of the ACW UL, whose detailed tasks are specified on [the website](#) University of Lodz website.
- 3) access to training for UL employees in the field of awareness disability, diversity and accessibility in all its areas.

## **§ 7**

### **Evaluation of the University of Lodz Policy on the Implementation of Accessibility at the University of Lodz**

1. The University of Lodz will regularly carry out checks on the progress of implementing accessibility principles.
2. The accessibility policy at the University of Lodz will be monitored and modified in accordance with current knowledge in this area.
3. An element of the accessibility policy will be the development of good practices, exchange of experiences and publishing them on the UL Multiportal.

The University of Lodz, through the permanent implementation of the accessibility policy in all its areas, aims to ensure access to high-quality services for all members of the academic community on the basis of equality and respect for rights and in accordance with applicable standards.