Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education

Accessibility/Disability

Guidelines for Disabled Students in College or University Residential Facilities

Unit/Department: Academic Affairs

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COUNCIL ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

Guidelines for Disabled Students in College or University Residential Facilities

I. Statement of Purpose

This document represents guidelines for the adoption of policies by public and private postsecondary education institutions with residence facilities in order to provide students with a disability a safe environment in which to live and study.

II. Statutory Authority

(2000 REGULAR SESS.) Ky. Acts, Ch. 191, p. 538

The statute refers to “disability” as defined in KRS 344.010.

III. Policy

Section A: Institutional Housing and Security Policy

1. An institution shall develop and maintain a housing and security policy that is:

    a. Visibly posted in each residence facility.
    b. Made available on campus computer networks to which students have access.
    c. Included in all student housing information.

2. The policy shall include:

    a. An appeals process available to students, parents or advocates that provides for an independent and impartial review of an institutional policy or housing assignment that does not accommodate the student disability or endangers the student’s safety.
    b. A statement that, employees of the office making the policy or housing assignment shall not be involved in the appeals process.

3. The institutional policy shall be filed in writing with the Council annually, no later than August 1. Provided, however, the policy for the initial year, 2000, shall be filed no later than September 20.

Section B: List of Room Assignments for Students with Disabilities

1. An institution shall prepare, at the start of each semester, a list of students in residential facilities at that institution with disabilities.

2. The list shall include the name and residency assignment of each student.

3. The names of the students with disabilities shall be developed from:

    a. Students who self-report disabilities.
    b. Parents or advocates who report disabilities for students where such reporting is consistent with federal and state law.

4. The list shall be given to campus housing and security authorities for use in addressing the safety of these students during an emergency.

ACTION

GUIDELINES FOR POLICIES ON STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Agenda Item F-5
September 18, 2000

Recommendation:

That the Council approve the attached Guidelines for Students with Disabilities.

Rationale:

- House Bill 321, adopted by the 2000 General Assembly, requires that postsecondary education institutions with dorms adopt policies that provide students with disabilities a safe environment in which to live and study. The Council is required to develop guidelines for those institutional policies.
- House Bill 321 went into effect in July 2000. These guidelines will assist institutions as they refine their policies.

Background:

House Bill 321 was adopted in response to the death of Michael Minger, a student who was killed in a fire at Murray State University. The bill requires postsecondary education institutions to:

- Develop housing and security policies.
- Post those policies in residence halls.
- Make the policies available on computer networks, if possible.
- Develop an appeals process for students, parents, and advocates who believe the student has not been reasonably accommodated.
- Provide a list of disabled students to campus security authorities.

Institutions generally are in compliance with House Bill 321. The policy guidelines provide the framework for refinement of individual campus policies.

Staff Preparation by Dennis Taulbee