



HEALTH SUPPORT FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITY

With an active set of diversity and inclusion programmes, Ashesi is a community that thrives on the many perspectives and lived experiences of its people - especially students. Key among our diversity and inclusion priorities, is the goal of recruiting – for both students and employees – persons with disabilities. In 2022 for example, 5% of our first-year class were people with disability. As such the University’s health, counseling, and student support teams have been trained to provide care and social support with disability and special learning needs.

Our Process

When applying, all students are required to indicate any disabilities or other medical conditions they may have. This information provides an idea of the possible health and support needs of the incoming class. The team then starts planning for any support likely to be needed by students with disabilities even before their arrival – including the purchase of any specific equipment, aids, or medicine.

Freshmen medical screening

In their first week on campus, all first-years undergo a medical screening. This initial medical screening validates the medical information provided during the application process; or helps the team identify health needs that may not have been known or disclosed by students. For some students, this screening is their very first.

The University health team meets with all students with disabilities, specific medical conditions, and psychological needs. These meetings help the team establish connections with students, and sets the foundation for building trust in students. This session also helps the team advise students on the various support systems in place at Ashesi.

Specialist Consultation

Each student with a disability additionally has a scheduled consultation with a medical specialist based on their specific medical needs. This consultation provides treatment, management, and a working diagnosis, especially for students who have never had access to specialist care. Various specialists that have been used and are likely to be used regularly include the following:

physiotherapists, cardiologists, ophthalmologists, opticians, audiologists, orthopedic specialists, and neurologists. The consultations last as long as the student needs the services of the specialist while on campus.

Medical Insurance and Emergency Medical funds

All students on scholarships are provided with private medical insurance. This insurance covers the following medical needs of students

1. Surgery
2. In-patient and outpatient services
3. Gynecological services
4. Ophthalmology including spectacles
5. Dental
6. Physiotherapy session
7. Mental health services
8. Medical Imaging and diagnostic services

Students who need services that are not covered by health insurance are provided with funds through a health budget prepared for emergency medical care.

Medical Services

The health service team provides round-the-clock clinical, diagnostic, and sexual and reproductive health care for all students, including those with special medical needs and disabilities. With a team that works 24 hours, the health center is able to pay full attention to the needs of students.

Medical Aids

The team works with students and specialists to procure aids that will provide support to and improve students' abilities. Different aids such as braces for spinal support, enhanced vision transformers, portable video magnifiers, hearing aids, spectacles, and electronic wheelchairs, are provided to students as needed to improve experience and success at Ashesi.