



Human Resources and
Social Development

Implementing Rules of the Regulation for Social and Professional Programs for People with Disabilities

Article (One):

1. The terms and expressions defined in Article (One) of the Regulation for Social and Professional Programs for People with Disabilities, issued by Council of Ministers Decision No. (691) dated 8/17/1445 AH, shall retain the same meanings specified for them in the Regulation wherever they appear in these rules, unless the context indicates otherwise.
2. The following terms and expressions, wherever they appear in these rules, shall have the meanings indicated opposite them unless the context requires otherwise:

Rules: Implementing Rules of the Regulation for Social and Professional Programs for People with Disabilities.

Under-secretary: Under-secretary for Rehabilitation and Social Guidance.

Technical department: General Department for Supporting and Empowering People with Disabilities at the Ministry.

Committee: Central Committee for Admission to the Ministry.

Academic qualification: It is the academic degree obtained by the person with a disability.

Guide: A guide (or more) of the detailed requirements and procedures, issued to implement the provisions of the rules, pursuant to Article (Twenty-Two).

Chapter One: Professional Programs

Article (Two):

To issue a certificate of suitability for a Professional program based on the type and severity of disabilities, the program must meet the following requirements:

1. The professional program must be accredited by the competent governmental authority in the program's relevant field.
2. The program must include training in theoretical and practical aspects.
3. The program duration must not be less than (six) months and no more than 3 years.
4. The program must be aligned with labor market needs or contribute to the rehabilitation of people with disabilities, enabling them to attain financial independence.
5. The specific category of people with disabilities targeted by the program, along with the appropriate facilitating arrangements for each category, must be clearly identified.
6. The Standards for successfully completing the program, whether based on a required success rate or a specific number of training hours, must be defined.
7. The program must be conducted in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
8. The training facility providing the program, must ensure comprehensive access for people with disabilities.
9. The facility providing the program must obtain a suitability certification from the Ministry's Labor Sector.

Article (Three):

The Human Resources Development Fund shall implement professional programs - through its strategic partnerships - upon approval of their suitability by the Ministry.

Article (Four):

Certificates of completion of professional programs shall be issued with the endorsement of the competent governmental authority that accredits the program.

Article (Five):

To ensure professional programs accredited as suitable for people with disabilities that are provided at a designated training facilities for people with disability or others, pursuant to Articles (Five) and (Six) of the Regulation, the following admission requirements apply to people with disabilities:

1. The person with disability must demonstrate willingness to undergo professional training and pursue employment, and meet the standards for admission according to the disability assessment. This condition includes the following cases:
 - a) The person with disability does not possess an academic qualification.
 - b) Or if the person with disability obtained his academic qualification before the onset of the disability, and cannot benefit from it due to the disability.
 - c) Or if the person with disability obtained his academic qualification before the disability, and can benefit from it despite the disability, but has no professional experience following the disability.

- d) Or if the person with disability obtained his academic qualification during - or after the onset of the disability, and has no professional experience following that.
2. The person with disability must have completed (fifteen) years of age and not exceeded (forty-five) years of age.
3. The person with disability must not currently be enrolled in an educational or training program funded by the government.
4. The person with disability must not have previously benefited from a professional training program funded by the government after the onset of the disability.
5. The person with disability must not be an employee (or worker) in the public or private sector.
6. The person with disability must be a Saudi national, a member of displaced tribes, someone of similar status, or a non-Saudi child of a female citizen.
7. The person with disability must not be among the cases specified in Article (Twenty-One) of the Regulation.

Chapter Two: Social Programs

Article (Six):

Firstly: In order to accredit a social program – as specified in Article (Ten) of the Regulation - the following requirements must be met:

1. Meet the specific requirements for social programs based on their type, as stated in the guide.
2. Provide a detailed description of the technical personnel required to deliver the program.
3. Include a detailed description of the program content.
4. Clarify the means and devices associated with the program's delivery.
5. Clearly identify the category of people with disabilities targeted by the program, along with the appropriate facilitating arrangements for each category.
6. Include a detailed description of the methodology for follow-up and measuring the progress of beneficiaries.
7. Clarify the Standards for completing the program, whether based on a success rate or completion of an individual training plan.
8. The program must be provided within the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Secondly: The Technical Department shall issue the Social Programs Accreditation Certificate.

Thirdly: The guide shall outline the mechanism for accrediting, developing and supervising social programs.

Article (Seven):

1. The guide shall specify the detailed controls for implementing housing services within the housing program for people with disabilities in government facilities including the necessary administrative, technical and operational requirements, in accordance with paragraph (1) of Article (Eleven) of the regulation, and shall include the following:
Policies concerning the organizational structure, staffing, qualifications and training.
 - b- Policies related to engagement with beneficiaries and their families.
 - c- A plan for implementing training materials directed at beneficiaries and their families.
 - d- A detailed operational plan.
 - e- A risk management and business continuity plan.
 - f- information concerning vacations and family visits during the program's duration, including the types of visits, frequency, rights of beneficiaries and families, and official vacations periods.
2. The Technical Department shall approve the detailed operational plan specified in subparagraph (d) of paragraph (1) of this Article, and shall renew it annually.

Article (Eight):

1. The table below indicates the time periods for benefiting from the social programs offered in government facilities.

Social Program	Time Period	Daily Period
Daily Social Care Program	9 Gregorian months per year starting at the beginning of the school year	Minimum of five hours per day except Friday and Saturday
Home Social Care Program	12 months renewable as needed	(8) hours daily.
Housing Program for People with Disabilities (Temporary Accommodation)	Once only, from (one day) to a maximum of (12) months	Daily, (24) hour coverage.
Housing Program for People with Disabilities (Permanent residential premises)	(Permanent)	Daily, (24) hour coverage.
Housing Program for People with Disabilities (Temporary Accommodation related to professional training)	Based on the duration of the accredited professional program, ending upon the beneficiary's completion of the program.	Daily, (24) hour coverage.

2. The time period for the housing program for people with disabilities (temporary accommodation), as indicated in the table in paragraph (1) of this Article, may be exempted by a one-time decision of the Minister.
3. The Technical Department shall re-evaluate the time period for the housing program for people with disabilities (permanent residential premises), as shown in the table in paragraph (1) of this Article, every three years.

Article (Nine):

1. Admission to the housing program for people with disabilities in government facilities shall be subject to committee approval.
2. The committee shall render its decisions in accordance with the admission requirements for the housing program set forth in Article (Twelve) of the regulation, taking into consideration the results of the disability assessment, the severity of the disability, and the findings of the social field research. The person must not be among the specified cases in Article (Twenty-One) of the regulation. The guide shall provide a clear mechanism for verifying compliance with these requirements.
3. Prior to granting the approval referenced in Paragraph (1) of this Article, the Committee shall verify that service beneficiaries have established medical files at specialized hospitals and primary healthcare centers.
4. The Under-secretary shall, by official decision, promulgate the requisite declaration and undertaking forms necessary for the implementation of this Article's provisions.

Article (10):

1. The provision of government home social care program services shall be contingent upon:
 - a) Meeting the admission requirements stipulated in Article (Fifteen) of the Regulation. The guide shall delineate the verification procedures for these requirements.
 - b) The person with disability not falling within the categories specified in Article (Twenty-One) of the Regulation.
 - c) The submission of a service application by the person with disability.
2. For the purposes of implementing Paragraph (3) of Article (Fifteen) of the Regulation; social research shall establish the appropriateness of providing program services to the person with a disability in the government home social care program when all household members are unable to provide care due to any of the following circumstances:
 - a) All family members' are engaged in employment or educational pursuits.
 - b) The caregiver being above (60) years of age.
 - c) The caregiver being below (18) years of age.
 - d) The caregiver having a disability registered in the Ministry's systems.
3. There shall be a separate room for the person with a disability in which care services are provided.

Article (Eleven):

For admission to the government's daily social care program pursuant to Article (Sixteen) of the Regulations, a person with a disability must satisfy the following criteria:

1. The person with disability shall present a moderate, severe or extremely severe mental disability as defined by the following criteria:
 - a) Moderate mental disability: characterized by moderately impaired mental functioning requiring supervision or guidance for certain life activities, or when a score of (36) to (51) is achieved on the Stanford-Binet IQ scale, or a score of (40) to (54) is achieved on the Wechsler scale.
 - b) Severe mental disability: characterized by severely impaired mental functioning, requiring supervision or guidance for most life activities, or when a score of (20) to (35) is achieved on the Stanford-Binet IQ Scale, or a score of (25) to (39) is achieved on the Wechsler Scale.
 - c) Extremely severe mental disability: Characterized by severely impaired mental functioning resulting in an inability for self-care and risk when left unattended, or when a score of (19) or below is achieved on the intelligence criterion of the Stanford-Binet scale, or a score of (24) or below is achieved on the Wechsler scale.
2. The person with disability shall be Saudi, a member of displaced tribes, or a child of a female citizen.
3. The person with disability shall not be an employee (or a worker) in the public or private sector.
4. The person with disability shall not engage in freelance work.
5. The person with disability shall not be enrolled in the Ministry of Education programs.
6. The person with disability shall not be participating in professional training programs.
7. The person with disability shall be between 2 and 45 Hijri years of age.
8. The person with disability shall not fall within the categories specified in Article (Twenty-One) of the Regulation.
9. The person with a disability shall submit a service application.

Article (Twelve):

For the purposes of implementing Article (Seventeen) of the Regulation:

Firstly: The Ministry shall coordinate with the relevant authorities to issue the following supportive social services:

1. Disability Certificate Issuance Service: A service whereby the Ministry issues an official document containing verified information regarding the registered disability of the person with a disability.
2. Digital Certificate Service for Traffic Facilitation: A service whereby the Ministry issues an official document authorizing persons with a disability to utilize designated parking spaces designated within the Kingdom, based on an assessment of the disability and its severity.
3. Visa Fee Exemption Letter Service: A service through which the Ministry issues a letter to a person with a disability confirming their exemption from visa fees, in accordance with the relevant regulatory provisions.
4. Passenger Fare Reduction Service: A service through which the Ministry issues a reduced-fare card for a person with a disability and their companion, applicable to air, land and sea transportation, in accordance with the relevant regulatory provisions.
5. Digital Certificate Service for Autism Spectrum Disorder: A service through which the Ministry issues an electronic identification card for people with disabilities diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder, granting them priority in services, in accordance with the relevant regulatory provisions.

Secondly: Supportive social services are provided in accordance with the following conditions:

1. The person with a disability shall be eligible for the service based on a valid disability assessment, and in accordance with the specific conditions of each service, ratified by a decision of the Minister.
2. The person with disability must be Saudi national, a member of displaced tribes, or a child of a female citizen.
3. The person with a disability shall not be receiving accommodation through any government housing service or state funded program within or outside the Kingdom for a period exceeding (one hundred and eighty) days in a single calendar year.
4. No other government authority shall provide social support services for the person with a disability.
5. The person with a disability must be a resident of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
6. The person with a disability must submit an application to receive the service.

Article (Thirteen):

1. For the purposes of implementing Article (Eighteen) of the Regulation, the Minister shall issue a decision, establishing detailed requirements for the disbursement and entitlement of assistive devices for a person with a disability based on a valid disability assessment and device type, with the following considerations taken into account:
 - a) The person with a disability must be a resident of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
 - b) Devices shall be allocated according to entitlement, not to exceed three (3) devices in total.
 - c) The beneficiary has the right to request the disbursement of only one device specialized specifications as specified in the decision, subject to the prescribed periodic replacement schedule.
 - d) The person with a disability must submit an application to obtain the service.
 - e) The decision shall outline the procedures for reviewing and processing device disbursement and update requests.

Article (Fourteen):

Firstly: The referral of people with disabilities to non-governmental facilities, as stipulated in Article (Twenty-Four) of the Regulation, is subject to the following requirements:

1. The facility must possess the required license in accordance with the provisions of the regulatory regulation for non-governmental social facilities for people with disabilities, issued by Council of Ministers Decision No. (691) dated 8/17/1445 AH, and its implementing rules.
2. The facility must submit its plan to obtain the quality certificate.
3. The facility must have no outstanding fines or penalties that would impede its operational activities.
4. The facility must have a performance evaluation of no less than (75).

Secondly: The technical department shall assess the need for the facility based on the geographical coverage of people with disabilities and their needs.

Thirdly: The guide shall provide detailed procedures for performance evaluation and the frequency of implementation, as referenced in paragraph (4) of clause (firstly) of this article.

Fourthly: The Minister shall issue a decision outlining the procedures for disbursing costs as specified in Article (Twenty-Three) of the Regulation.

Article (Fifteen):

For the purposes of implementing Article (Twenty-Five) of the Regulation:

1. The guide shall detail the procedures for terminating services for people with disabilities in governmental social or professional programs or those funded by the state, ensuring termination aligns with an accredited training plan (social or professional). The guide shall specify the procedural mechanism for evaluating the training plan's effectiveness and the beneficiary's successful completion.
2. Social and professional program services for people with disabilities, funded by the state, shall be terminated under the following circumstances:
 - a) Expiration of disability assessment without renewal.
 - b) Death of the person with a disability
 - c) The request of service discontinuation by the person with a disability or their guardian.
 - d) Failure to meet service eligibility conditions.
 - e) Relocation to a geographical area where service provision is impracticable.
 - f) Repeated absence of the beneficiary from the daily social care or professional programs exceeding 25% of the programs allocated days annually, without an acceptable excuse. For the purposes of implementing this provision, the guide shall specify the procedures for issuing warnings to the beneficiary prior to program termination.
 - g) Assault by the beneficiary or a family member on the service provider within the home social care program.
 - h) The beneficiary's completion of the transitional service program.
 - i) The family's failure to follow up on the beneficiary's care plan, with fewer than (four) visits per month in the social housing program for people with disabilities. For the purposes of implementing this provision, the guide shall elaborate on the procedures for organizing leaves (including holiday leaves) with the purpose of issuing warnings to the beneficiary or their family (as applicable) before program termination.
2. The guide shall explain the detailed procedures for referring people with disabilities to other programs, whether provided by the Ministry or offered by the state through other government authorities; taking the following considerations into account:

- a) Notifying the beneficiary and their family that the standard duration of benefit from the program from which the referral is to be made has ended.
- b) Notifying the beneficiary and their family if the beneficiary meets the requirements for benefiting from other programs provided by the Ministry.
- c) Notifying the beneficiary and their family if the beneficiary is in need of other programs provided by the state through other governmental authorities.
- d) Providing the beneficiary with a transitional program not exceeding (three) months.
- e) The beneficiary shall bear the costs of continuing in the program from which the referral is sought, if the regular program benefit period has ended, and the transitional program referred to in subparagraph (d) has also concluded.

Article (Sixteen):

For the purposes of implementing Article (Twenty-Seven) of the Regulation, the Guide shall specify detailed standards for monitoring program implementation and evaluating quality of performance, ensuring compliance with the facility's obligations to deliver programs per the Regulation, rules and Guide, including the following:

1. Adherence to policies and procedures.
2. Compliance with program-specific service standards.
3. Provision and completion of transitional programs.
4. Measurement of beneficiary satisfaction with services.

Article (Seventeen):

1. For the purposes of implementing Article (Twenty-Nine) of the Regulation, the Minister shall issue, by a decision, the detailed criteria for determining a person with a disability's entitlement to financial support, whether full or partial. This includes mechanisms for determining full or partial support, whether temporary or permanent, and the levels of entitlement according to the categories in accordance with the severity of the disability and its impact.
2. For the purposes of implementing paragraph (1) of this article, the following considerations shall be taken into account when issuing the decision:
 - a) The person with a disability must be registered in the Ministry's systems and have a valid disability assessment.
 - b) Provision of support shall be contingent upon a request from the person with a disability or their family (as applicable).
 - c) The person with a disability must be a resident of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Article (Eighteen):

Financial support shall be disbursed to a person with a disability under the following conditions:

1. Disbursement shall occur via direct transfer to the beneficiary's bank account.
2. Disbursement shall cease in the following cases:
 - a) Beneficiary's Death.
 - b) Ineligibility, including the expiration of the disability assessment.
 - c) A request by the beneficiary or their caregiver (provided they are a family member) to terminate the service.

Article (Nineteen):

For the purposes of implementing Article (Thirty) of the Regulation, the following considerations shall be taken into account:

1. As a rule, financial support shall be disbursed directly to the person with a disability.
2. Financial support may be disbursed to the caregiver – provided they are a family member - pursuant to a custody document, in the following cases:
 - a) If the beneficiary is under 18 years of age.
 - b) Upon issuance of a judicial ruling establishing the beneficiary's lack or loss of legal capacity.
 - c) The social field research must prove that the beneficiary resides with the caregiver and is under their direct supervision.

Article (Twenty):

For the purposes of implementing Article (Thirty-Three) of the Regulation, the guide shall specify the detailed procedures and controls governing the disbursement of monthly financial stipends to participants enrolled in professional training programs, taking into account the following considerations:

1. Disbursement shall commence upon the trainee's enrollment in the program, effective from the (first) day of the program through its conclusion.
2. The monthly stipend shall be reduced if unexcused absences exceed five (5) days per month.
3. The stipend shall cease in the following circumstances:
 - a) Request for a deferral of the training semester.
 - b) If the person with a disability is deemed unable to benefit from the program.

Article (Twenty-One):

For the purposes of implementing Article (Thirty-Four) of the Regulation, Saudi nationals with disabilities who are assessed as capable of working, based on the nature and severity of the disability, shall be eligible for a one-time financial grant once (one time), subject to the Ministry's specified requirement in the guide, the following conditions apply when granting this support:

1. The person must be registered in the Ministry's systems, and possess a valid disability assessment verifying their capacity for employment.
2. The person must have a commercial registration or self-employment certification for the project eligible for the grant.
3. The grant shall be allocated for the acquisition of tools and establishing the project.

Article (Twenty-Two):

The Social Rehabilitation and Guidance Agency shall prepare the guide, which shall include all provisions necessary to implement the rules, and shall be accredited by a decision of the Minister.

Article (Twenty-Three):

The rules supersede all conflicting provisions.

