



Reduce Inequality Within and Among Countries

10.6.6

Through the Student Support Office and the Medical Sector, MIU actively maintains a supportive environment. By integrating academic follow-ups (mentoring), psychiatric referrals (counseling), and human assistants (peer/scribe support), the university ensures that students and staff from underrepresented groups—including those with disabilities, mental health struggles, and chronic illnesses—are fully integrated into the academic community.

1. Academic Mentoring and Faculty Support Programs

The university has established specific mechanisms to ensure students with learning difficulties and chronic conditions receive direct mentoring and monitoring from faculty.

- **Academic Staff Follow-up:** For students with diagnoses such as ADHD, learning difficulties (dyslexia, slow learning), and serious medical conditions, the university implements "Academic Monitoring". This involves direct "Student Follow-up" by academic staff and "College Follow-up" to ensure the students' progress is maintained despite their challenges.
- **Targeted Beneficiaries:** This mentoring support was utilized by approximately 48 students in the Spring 2024 semester, specifically those with tumors/cancer, learning/cognitive difficulties, and behavioral issues.

2. Psychological Counseling and Mental Health Services

The university operates a program supporting the mental and psychological health of both students and employees, moving beyond physical health to address holistic well-being.

- **Counseling and Intervention:** Support measures for mental health cases include "Meetings" and "Psychological/Medical Support".
- **Professional Referral System:** The program includes "Referral to a Psychiatric Consultant" for cases requiring specialized intervention.

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- **Performance Coordination:** The support extends to "coordination for academic job performance consideration," acting as an institutional advocacy program for those struggling with anxiety, panic, or depression.
- **Impact:** In the year 2023-2024, 33 cases (students and employees) were supported through these counseling and mental health protocols.

3. Institutional Support for Employees with Chronic Conditions

The university provides structured support for employees facing significant health challenges, ensuring job security and accommodation.

- **Cancer and Chronic Illness Support:** Employees with chronic illnesses (e.g., cancer, heart failure) receive "modified daily attendance hours" or allowances for "irregular attendance" to facilitate treatment.
- **Case Management:** The medical sector actively manages these cases, as evidenced by the support provided to a security guard with cancer, facilitating his referral to specialists, surgery, and ongoing chemotherapy while maintaining his employment status.

4. Specialized Support for Female Staff and Students (Maternity)

A specific support framework is in place for pregnant women, ensuring their academic and professional continuity.

- **Employee Mentoring/Support:** A total of 38 pregnant employees were granted "exceptional leave" and "exemption from attendance starting from the ninth month".
- **Student Support:** Pregnant students receive health monitoring at university clinics, including blood pressure and blood sugar assessments. If a student requires prolonged leave, they are advised on withdrawal procedures that ensure "full retention of grades" and "transfer of fees," thereby protecting their academic standing upon return.



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5. Physical and Educational Peer/Assistant Support

For students with physical or cognitive barriers, the university provides human resources to act as educational aids.

- **Scribes and Companions:** The university provides a "scribe or writing assistant " or a "companion" during exams for students who cannot write independently, particularly for those with muscle weakness or learning difficulties.
- **Clinical Support Staff:** The university clinics are staffed by doctors and nurses trained in "Basic Life Support (BLS)" to provide immediate care and safety for high-risk individuals on campus.