



**Bureau of Experts at the Council of Ministers
Official Translation Department**

**Regulations for Social and Vocational Programs for Persons with
Disabilities**

Council of Ministers Resolution No. 691
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Translation of Saudi Laws

NOTES:

1. This translation is provided for guidance. The governing text is the Arabic text.
2. The translation of Saudi laws takes the following into consideration:
 - Words used in the singular form include the plural and vice versa.
 - Words used in the masculine form include the feminine.
 - Words used in the present tense include the present as well as the future.
 - The word “person” or “persons” and their related pronouns (he, his, him, they, their, them, and who) refer to a natural and legal person.



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Regulations for Social and Vocational Programs for Persons with Disabilities

Chapter 1: Definitions

Article 1

In these Regulations, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings assigned thereto, unless the context requires otherwise:

Ministry: Ministry of Human Resources and Social Development.

Minister: Minister of Human Resources and Social Development.

Person with a Disability: Any person who has a long-term physical, mental, intellectual, sensory, or psychological disorder or impairment that may, when facing different challenges, prevent him from fully and effectively participating in society on an equal basis with others.

Persons with Disabilities with Special Social Circumstances: Persons with disabilities who do not have a guardian because they are of unknown parentage or do not have a relative in any of the following categories: parents, grandparents, siblings, children, grandchildren, or spouses, or who are under the legal guardianship of the Ministry in terms of guardianship over person because there is no guardian to care for them.

Caregiver of a Person with a Disability: A person who resides with a person with a disability to provide care therefor, whether such person is a family member or is hired for such purpose.

Social Programs: A set of programs through which social services are provided to persons with disabilities to improve their social skills and train them to become as independent as possible in their daily life tasks to ensure their effective participation in the surrounding environment as well as their integration in their families and the community. Such programs include the following: the daily social care program, the home social care program, and the housing program for persons with disabilities.

Daily Social Care Program: A set of social services provided to persons with disabilities in a facility for specified periods during the day.

Home Social Care Program: A set of social services provided to persons with disabilities at their places of residence for specified periods during the day.

Housing Program for Persons with Disabilities: A set of social services provided to persons with disabilities at temporary housing facilities or at their permanent places of residence.

Supportive Social Services: A set of social services provided by the Ministry to a person with a disability based on an assessment of his disability to enable him to become an active participant in the surrounding environment, including benefiting from social and vocational programs.

Assistive Devices: Non-medical and non-educational devices which are provided to assist persons with disabilities in performing daily activities and enable them to effectively and productively participate in community life.

Vocational Programs: A set of vocational training programs offered to persons with disabilities to develop their skills in order to enable them to work and make an honest living.

Facilities: Any governmental or non-governmental facility that offers to persons with disabilities social or vocational programs approved by the Ministry.

Regulations: Regulations for Social and Vocational Programs for Persons with Disabilities.



Implementing Rules: Implementing Rules of the Regulations.

Chapter 2: Assessment of Disability

Article 2

The Ministry shall implement the provisions of these Regulations and their Implementing Rules by undertaking the following:

1. Developing a database for the social conditions of persons with disabilities.
2. Adopting methods for the assessment of disability to determine the appropriate programs for persons with disabilities.

Article 3

The Ministry shall assess disability in coordination with the relevant government agencies, and may assign such task to the non-government sector under its supervision.

Chapter 3: Vocational Programs

Article 4

The Ministry shall approve the appropriateness of vocational programs according to the type and severity of the disability. The Implementing Rules shall specify the necessary requirements therefor, taking into consideration the following:

1. The vocational program is accredited by the competent government agency and aims to enable persons with disabilities to work and make an honest living.
2. The vocational program does not exceed three years.
3. The environment at the training facility is suitable and equipped with the reasonable accommodations necessary for training persons with disabilities.
4. Clear criteria for passing the vocational program are in place.

Article 5

The Implementing Rules shall specify the controls for offering approved vocational programs to persons with disabilities in vocational training facilities specifically designated for persons with disabilities or others.

Article 6

To be accepted in government vocational programs, a person with a disability must:

1. be able to receive vocational training based on the results of the disability assessment;
2. be at least fifteen years old and not more than forty-five years old;
3. not be an employee in the public or private sector; and
4. be a Saudi national, be from a displaced tribe or have a similar status, or be a non-Saudi child whose mother is a Saudi national.



Article 7

The Ministry may enter into strategic partnerships with relevant government agencies and the non-government sector for the provision of vocational programs thereby, in accordance with these Regulations.

Article 8

Persons with disabilities shall have the right to benefit from existing strategic partnerships for training ending with employment or following employment, which are concluded between relevant government agencies and the non-government sector, in accordance with these Regulations.

Article 9

A person with a disability shall be entitled to attend only one vocational program in facilities where the State bears the costs of the training programs pursuant to Article 23 of these Regulations. This shall not prevent such person from benefiting, at his own expense, from other vocational programs or repeating the same vocational program.

Chapter 4: Social Programs

Article 10

The Implementing Rules shall specify the requirements for the approval, development, and supervision of social programs.

Article 11

The Implementing Rules shall specify the controls for offering social programs in government facilities. Such controls shall include the following:

1. The administrative, technical, and operational requirements necessary for the provision of social services as well as the requirements necessary for housing services in the housing program for persons with disabilities.
2. The periods for benefiting from the programs.

Article 12

To be accepted in the housing program for persons with disabilities provided at temporary government housing facilities, a person with a disability must fall under any of the following categories:

1. Persons with moderate or severe intellectual disabilities or multiple severe disabilities whose families are incapable of caring for as proven by a social investigation, and in whose areas of residence social programs are not available.
2. Persons with moderate or severe disabilities who are subject to violence and abuse and whose cases are referred by the Family Protection Department.
3. Persons with disabilities attending vocational training programs at government centers outside city limits, provided that such persons are not benefiting from any housing services at the expense of the State during the period of the program.



Article 13

The Ministry may accept persons with disabilities who do not meet the admission requirements referred to in Article 12 of these Regulations in temporary government housing facilities at their own expense. This includes persons with disabilities who are not Saudi nationals.

Article 14

The housing program for persons with disabilities may be offered at the permanent places of residence of persons with disabilities with special social circumstances who are unable to work if they have intellectual disabilities or multiple disabilities, or if they are bedridden.

Article 15

For a person with a disability to be accepted in the government's home social care program, the following requirements must be satisfied:

1. The person must be severely disabled and unable to independently perform daily life tasks based on the results of the approved disability assessment.
2. The person does not have a full-time caregiver at home.
3. A social investigation must conclude that the program is suitable for the person according to the criteria specified in the Implementing Rules.

Article 16

The Implementing Rules shall specify the requirements for the acceptance of persons with disabilities in the government's daily social care program, provided that accepted persons have moderate or severe intellectual disabilities which prevent them from benefiting from the educational programs of the Ministry of Education or the vocational training programs.

Article 17

The Implementing Rules shall specify the controls for providing supportive social services, in coordination with relevant entities.

Article 18

The Implementing Rules shall specify the controls for the provision of assistive devices and the criteria for the eligibility of persons with disabilities thereto, taking the following into consideration:

1. The person must be eligible to receive the device based on the results of the disability assessment.
2. The person must be a Saudi national, be from a displaced tribe or have a similar status, or be a non-Saudi child whose mother is a Saudi national.
3. The person must not be a beneficiary of any government housing service or of any housing service at the expense of the State inside or outside the Kingdom for more than one hundred and eighty days per year.
4. The person must not be a recipient of assistive devices from any other government agency.



Chapter 5: Offering Programs

Article 19

Government agencies may offer their specialized programs to persons with disabilities in facilities specialized in providing the Ministry's social programs. Such programs include educational programs, cultural programs, health programs, and other programs that cater to the needs of persons with disabilities under the supervision of such agencies.

Article 20

1. If male and female persons with disabilities are in the same facility, the services provided to males must be completely separated from those provided to females; in such case, the facility shall be provided with the appropriate staff.
2. The Minister shall, in agreement with the Minister of Justice, determine the age at which it is not permitted for either gender to provide services to the other. The Minister may exempt a male person with a disability from such provision pursuant to a medical report, approved by a medical committee of specialized consultant physicians, which proves that such person has a developmental problem that prevents him from physically reaching puberty.

Article 21

The following persons shall not be accepted in the social or vocational programs offered at government facilities run by the Ministry:

1. Persons afflicted with contagious or infectious diseases or psychological disorders that pose a risk to themselves or to others.
2. Persons who are medically unstable and require healthcare that prevents them from benefiting from such programs.

Article 22

Social or vocational programs are offered to persons with disabilities of Saudi nationality in government facilities according to the admission requirements of each program. For the purpose of implementing this provision, the following shall be treated as Saudis:

1. A person from a displaced tribe or a person who has a similar status.
2. A non-Saudi child whose mother is a Saudi national.
3. A beneficiary of the services of government facilities at his own expense, at the expense of his country, or at the expense of a profit or non-profit organization.

Article 23

The State shall fully or partially bear the costs of social and vocational programs for a person with a disability in a non-government facility if it is not possible to enroll such person in a government facility, subject to the following controls:

1. The person is a Saudi national, is from a displaced tribe or has a similar status, or is a non-Saudi child whose mother is a Saudi national.
2. The person is not afflicted with a contagious or infectious disease or a psychological disorder that poses a risk to himself or to others.
3. The person is not medically unstable nor in need of healthcare that prevents him from benefiting from such programs.



4. The person meets the admission requirements of the respective programs.
5. The person is not employed in the public or private sector.

Article 24

The Ministry shall designate the non-government facilities to which persons with disabilities are referred in order to fully or partially benefit from their programs in accordance with the requirements provided for in the Implementing Rules, taking into account the proximity of such facilities to the places of residence of said persons as well as their needs.

Article 25

The Implementing Rules shall specify the procedures for terminating the services provided to persons with disabilities in government social or vocational programs or in programs the costs of which are borne by the State as well as the procedures for referring such persons to other programs, whether offered by the Ministry or by the State through other government agencies, to ensure their needs are met.

Article 26

If a person with a disability refuses to be discharged from the facility upon the end of the program or if the admission requirements cease to apply to such person, the Ministry may seek the assistance of relevant government agencies to implement the discharge procedures as well as the referral procedures referred to in Article 25 of these Regulations.

Article 27

The Implementing Rules shall specify the criteria for monitoring program implementation and performance quality. The Ministry may outsource such task to the non-government sector under its supervision.

Chapter 6: Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Article 28

Eligible persons with disabilities pursuant to Article 29 of these Regulations shall receive financial support of an amount not exceeding twenty thousand riyals (SAR 20,000) per year.

Article 29

The Implementing Rules shall specify the eligibility requirements for persons with disabilities to receive full or partial financial support whether on a permanent or temporary basis, as follows:

1. The person must be eligible to receive support based on the results of the assessment of the disability and its severity.
2. The person must be a Saudi national, be from a displaced tribe or have a similar status, or be a non-Saudi child whose mother is a Saudi national.
3. The person must not be a beneficiary of any government housing service or of any other housing service at the expense of the State inside or outside the Kingdom for more than one hundred and eighty days per year.



Article 30

Financial support shall be paid to a person with a disability who is fully competent. If the person with a disability is a minor or if a court ruling is issued declaring him fully or partially incompetent, the support shall be paid to a family member caregiver.

Article 31

Persons with disabilities may receive disability financial support in addition to any other aid or financial support.

Article 32

Persons with disabilities of Saudi nationality who are enrolled in vocational programs shall be entitled to receive, during their enrollment period, a monthly allowance of eight hundred riyals (SAR 800) for unmarried persons and one thousand and two hundred riyals (SAR 1,200) for married persons. If the person with a disability is residing in any government housing service or in any housing service at the expense of the State, such allowance shall be reduced by 50%.

Article 33

The Implementing Rules shall specify the controls for payment of the monthly allowance as of the date of enrollment in the vocational programs, including matters relating to vacations and the controls for suspending payment to persons who are not making progress in the programs.

Article 34

A person with a disability of Saudi nationality who is able to work shall receive a one-time financial grant of fifty thousand riyals (SAR 50,000) to set up an enterprise, whether individually or in partnership with others, in accordance with the controls specified in the Implementing Rules.

Chapter 7: General Provisions

Article 35

1. A person with a disability who is fully competent shall have the right to take all the measures necessary to enable him to benefit from the privileges provided for in these Regulations.
2. Without prejudice to the powers of other relevant entities, the Ministry shall have the right of guardianship over person for a person who does not have a legal guardian and who is declared, pursuant to a court ruling, to be fully or partially incompetent based on a medical assessment of his intellectual ability.

Article 36

The rights of persons with disabilities and the services provided thereto as stipulated in these Regulations shall not prejudice any more favorable rights or services stipulated in any other legal provisions.



Article 37

1. The Minister shall, pursuant to a decision issued thereby, form a committee, or more, to consider the grievances submitted to the Ministry against decisions issued in the application of these Regulations. Such committee shall comprise at least three members and shall include legal advisors and specialists in the field of social and vocational programs.
2. The committee's work rules and procedures and the remuneration of its members shall be determined by a decision issued by the Minister.
3. Appeals may be made before the Administrative Court.

Article 38

The Minister shall issue the Implementing Rules within one hundred and eighty days from the date of issuance of these Regulations. The Implementing Rules shall be published on the Ministry's website and shall become effective on the date these Regulations enter into force.

Article 39

These Regulations shall supersede the Regulations for Rehabilitation Programs for the Disabled issued by Council of Ministers Resolution No. (34) dated 10/3/1400H.

Article 40

These Regulations shall enter into force one hundred and eighty days from the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.